





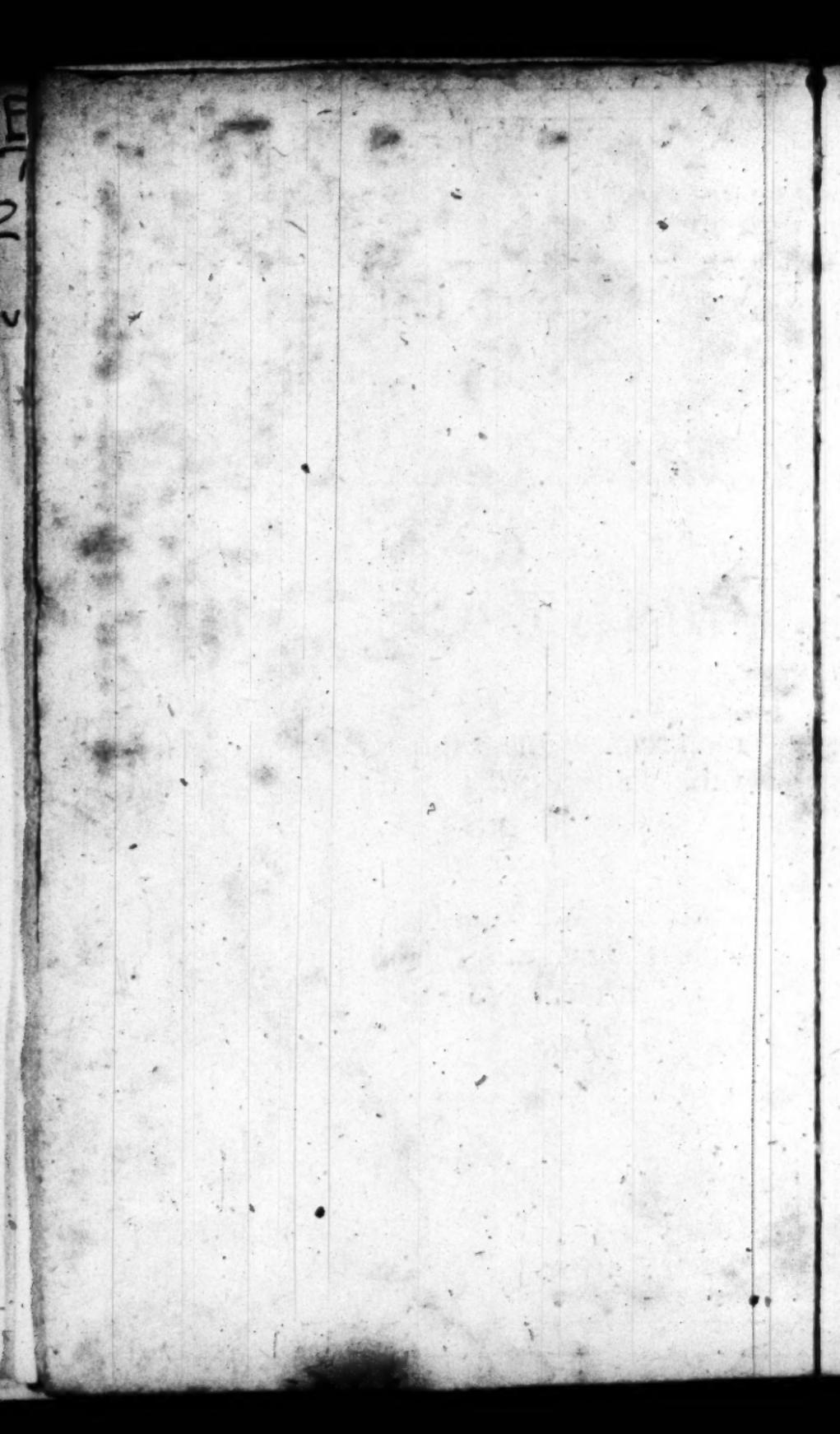
THE
HISTORY
OF THE
Two Late Kings,
Charles the Second
A N D
James the Second.

Being an Impartial Account of the
most remarkable Transactions, and obser-
vable Passages, during their Reigns ; and
the Secret French and Popish Intrigues
and Designs managed in those Times.

Together with a Relation of the
Happy Revolution, and the Accession of
Their present Majesties
King *William* and Queen *Mary*,
to the Throne, Feb. 13. 1688.

By R. B.

L O N D O N, Printed for Nath. Crouch, at the
Bell in the Poultrey near Cheapside. 1693.



T O T H E R E A D E R.

THE acceptance that *Abstracts* of this Nature have met with, hath encouraged me to proceed; and I now present the Reader with a brief Account of the most considerable Passages that happened in these Kingdoms during the Reigns of the two last Kings, and likewise of the Secret Intrigues and Designs that were managed by Popish and French Emissaries during those Times, in which we may admire the Conduct of Divine Providence in so infatuating their cursed Councils.

To the Reader.

and Machinations, that by those very methods and ways they imagined and contrived to promote that Slavery of Soul and Body which they had prepared for Protestants, all their wicked Devices were utterly overthrown and confounded, and thereby a most Glorious Deliverance wrought for us, in the happy advancement of our present most Gracious and Religious Princes to the Throne, of which I have here given a short Relation, that the remembrance of so great a Blessing may never be forgotten, and that our vile Ingatitude, and frantick Discontents, may not provoke the Almighty to give us up into the Hands of our merciless and implacable Enemies, and there be none to deliver us. Which that God may avert, is the earnest Prayer of

R. B.

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THE
HISTORY
O F
King *CHARLES II.*

TH E Death of Oliver Cromwel, who expired Sept. 3. 1658. gave great hopes to the Royalists of the Restoration of King Charles, of which Cardinal Mazarine was so possest, that when the News thereof came to Paris, he hastened to the Queen Mother, and congratulated her thereupon, telling her, That the great Enemy to her Self and Family being now remov'd, he was certainly perswaded that the return of her Son to his Countrey, and to the Throne of his Ancestors, was approaching; and indeed, it was resolved on here by all his Friends, and some of his former Enemies, to use their utmost endeavours from this time to effect the same, to which the uncertain and fluctuating condition of the Government, after Cromwells death, did much contribute, it may therefore be necessary to give a brief account of the several turns of Affairs that happened in the two years following, and which were previous to the Kings Restoration.

The same day wherein Oliver Cromwel died (of whose Life and Actions I have lately published an

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Impartial Account) his Privy-council went in a body to wait upon his Son Richard, and declared to him his Fathers appointment of him for his Successor, whom they did now acknowledge to be their Rightful and most Undoubted Protector and Governor; and next morning he was proclaimed in great state in the usual places in London and Westminster, in the Tenor following :

Whereas it hath pleased God by his providence, to take away the most Serene and Illustrious Oliver, Lord Protector, who according to the Petition and Advice in his life time, had declared the most Noble and Illustrious, his Son, the Lord Richard Cromwel, to be his Successor, the Privy-council, the Lord Mayor, and the Officers of the Army, do therefore heartily and unanimously acknowledge the said Lord Richard as rightful Protector and chief Magistrate, and do require all persons to yield obedience to him, beseeching God, by whom Princes Reign, to bless him with long life, and the Nations under him with peace and happiness.

In the Afternoon the Lord Mayor and Aldermen came to White-hall, to condole and congratulate Richard at once, and in their presence the Lord Commissioner Fiennes gave him his Oath according to the Humble Petition and Advice, and afterward Dr. Manton prayed for a blessing on him and his Government; and so this short Solemnity ended. After this Addresses were made by men of all ranks and degrees, from several parts of the Nation, acknowledging him as Protector, and assuring him of their assistance in supporting himself and his Government. He then took care for Solemnizing the Funeral of his Father, who was buried in great state in Westminster, the Expence thereof being said to be near threescore thousand pounds.

This being over, it was thought necessary that a Parliament should be summoned for Establishing this

New

New Protector in his New Government, and accordingly the Writs were sent out, and the Elections made according to the ancient way, only thirty Members were called by Writs from Scotland, and as many from Ireland, persuant to Olivers Project of Uniting the three Kingdoms into one Commonwealth. The Parliament met at Westminster, Jan. 27. 1659. and after hearing a Sermon at the Abbey, the young Protector made a Speech to them, which was seconded by another of the Lord Commissioner Fiennes: Then they went to their House, having chosen Mr. Chaloner Clute their Speaker, an Act of Recognition was brought in, the Debate upon which took up fourteen days, but at length, Feb 14. the following Votes were passed without a Negative.

Resolved, That it be part of this Bill to recognize and declare, His Highness Richard Lord Protector, and Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth of

England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the Dominions and Territories thereunto belonging.

Resolved, That before this Bill be committed, the House do declare such additional clauses to be part of this Bill, as may bound the power of the Chief Magistrate, and fully secure the Rights and Priviledges of Parliament, and the Rights and Liberties of the people, and that neither this nor any other previous Vote, that is, or shall be passed, in order to this Bill, shall be of force or binding to the people until the whole Bill be passed.

And Feb. 19. they Voted, ' That it be part of this Bill to declare the Parliament to consist of two Houses, but then it was debated, whether the other House, constituted by the late Protector, should be acknowledged and transacted with as an House of Parliament, and in the close of fourteen days Debate, wherein the Right of the ancient Peers was asserted, and all the Arguments against it confuted, they came at length to this Resolution:

Resolved, That this House will Transact with the persons now sitting in the other House, as an House of Parliament, during this present Parliament; and that it is not hereby intended to exclude such Peers, as have been faithful to the Parliament, from their privilege of being duly summoned to be Members of that House.

They had also several days debate concerning the bounding of the chief Magistrates power, and the bounds and powers of the other House, which the Court-party alledged ought to be according to the Petition and Advice in Olivers last Parliament, but the other party denied it to be a Law, being obtained by force, and exclusion of above one hundred Members, by which force also the Purse was taken from the Commons, by settling a Revenue of 1300000*l.* a year for ever upon a single person. They then by a saving Vote about the Fleet, asserted their interest in the Militia, and considered how to take away all Laws about the Excise and Customs after three years, and vindicated the peoples Rights by setting Major General Overton, and Mr. Portman, at Liberty, and divers others, without paying Fees, declaring their Imprisonment illegal and unjust, and Coll. Berkstead Lieutenant of the Tower, was brought to the Bar for detaining them, and arrested on the Exchange by Overton for false Imprisonment. They likewise highly resented the sending Free-born Englishmen, against their wills, to Barbadoes, Jersey, &c. out of the reach of Habeas Corpus, the illegal proceedings of Excise-men, Major Generals, and other Grievances, and appointed a Bill to be drawn for remedying thereof.

These proceedings occasioned the Protector, and the Army, to be jealous of each other; the General Council of Officers kept their constant meetings at Wallingford-House, and the Protector, with his party, met at White-hall to countermine them. Soon after came

came out a Remonstrance from the Army to Richard, declaring what danger the Good Old Cause was in, That the Asserters of it were every where vilified, the great Patriots and Patrons of it put into printed Lists, and marked for Destruction, (*meaning the Kings Judges*) with the ruin of all the Godly and the Cause together ; that the Army was purposely kept from pay that they might mutiny, and therefore desired the Protector to signifie so much to the Parliament, that they might have some speedy redress.

This Remonstrance contrived by the Republican party, was sent by them to Tichburn, Lord Mayor of London, who ingaged the Officers of the City Trained Bands to make an Address to the L. Fleetwood and the Army, whom they promised to stand by in defence of the same Good Old Cause ; so that now they resolved to lay aside the Protector, with the assistance of Major General Lambert, who had newly recovered his interest with the Army, and though Richard was advised to seize them, yet being Pusillanimous, and not doubting any danger from the Lord Fleetwood and Desborough, who were his near Relations, he could not be brought to a resolution while there was any remedy to be found, but at length he began to think of securing himself when it was too late, and the House of Commons resolving to let the Officers know that they took them still to be their Servants, April 18. 1659. passed the following Votes.

Resolved, That during the sitting of the Parliament, there shall be no General Council, or meeting of the Officers of the Army, without direction and authority of his Highness the Lord Protector, and both Houses of Parliament.

Resolved, That no person shall have, or continue any command or trust in any of the Armies, or Nations of England, Scotland, and Ireland, or any

of the Dominions or Territories thereto belonging, who shall refuse to subscribe That he will not disturb nor interrupt the free Meetings in Parliament of any of the Members of either House of Parliament, or their freedom in their Debates and Counsels.

And to shew their care of the Army, and prevent jealousies, they Voted further.

‘ Resolved, That the House do presently take into consideration the ways and means for satisfaction of the Arrears of the Armies, and providing present pay for them.

‘ Resolved, That Serjeant Maynard, the Attorney General, and Sollicitor General, do forthwith prepare an Act of Indemnity for all such as have acted under the Parliament and Common-wealth.

In the mean time the contest grew high between the Protector and the Officers of the Army, both sides keeping Guard Night and Day against each other, the Protector having in pursuance of the Votes of the House, forbidden the Officers to meet. In this divided posture affairs continued till April 22. on which morning early, the L. Fleetwood the Protectors Brother, Desborough his Uncle, and the other discontented Officers, carrying the chief part of the Army after them, and the Protectors party declining, he was forced to consent to a Commission and Proclamation ready drawn, giving power to Desborough, and some others, to Dissolve the Parliament, and accordingly the same day the Black Rod was sent twice to the House of Commons from Lord Commissioner Fiennes, Speaker of the other House, who would not admit him, disdaining the motion, as counting them the lower House and their own Creature, whom they still treated by the Name of the Other House when they transacted with them. And understanding there were Guards of Horse and Foot in the Palace-Yard, they made some motions, That the House should first declare it Treason for

any person whatsoever to put force upon any Members of the House ; and next, that all Votes, Acts, and Resolutions, passed by any Members of Parliament, when the rest were detained from, or taken out of the House, should be null and void, &c. And though there were four hundred in the House, they were very unanimous therein, but finding themselves under a force they came to no Resolution, and Adjourned till Monday, April 25. attending the Speaker in order through Westminster-Hall to his Coach, in the face of the Souldiery.

And now the Courtiers left White-Hall to come to Wallingford-House, and the Lord Fleetwood, Desborough, and the rest of the Officers, took the Government into their own hands, and discarded Richard Protector, who very quietly left all to them : The House of Commons was also shut up, and entrance denied to the Members when they came on Monday according to Adjournment, the Court of Requests, and all the Avenues, being full of Soldiers, who told the Members they must sit no more.

The Officers of the Army having the Government, and finding the people discontented with their Military proceedings, they resolved to call together the Members of the Long Parliament, that were turned out by Cromwel in 1653. and about twenty of them being about London, they went to their old Speaker William Lenthal, Esq; to desire him to take his place again, which he at length agreed to, and thereupon, Saturday, May 7. they met early in the Painted-Chamber, and having made up their number Forty two they entred the House, the invitation of the Army, for the sitting of the Long Parliament, being first published in Westminster-Hall, wherein they declare, ' That calling to mind that Gods presence and his blessing was visible among the late Members of the Long Parliament, who sat till

April 23. 1653. they did invite them to their Trust. The House answer this with a like Declaration (not reflecting in the least upon the Army) ' That they are resolved to apply themselves to the discharge of their Trust, and to endeavour a settlement upon such a foundation as might best secure all Christian and Civil Interests, Liberty and Property, without King, single Person, or House of Peers, and shall endeavour the work of Reformation so much desired and often declared for, and a Godly and faithful Ministry, to the glory and praise of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the reviving and making glad the hearts of the faithful in the Land.

Upon notice of their sitting, there being double their number of Members of the same Parliament in Town, and many of them in the Hall, several attempted to enter the House, but were not suffered by the Officers of the Army to go in, and the House passed an Order, ' That such persons heretofore Members of this Parliament, as have not sat in this Parliament since 1648. and have not subscribed the Ingagement in the Roll of Ingagement of this House, shall not sit in this House till further Order of Parliament. They then chose a Council of State of twenty one, and after fell to consider how to raise Money by selling the Kings, and other publick Lands, and all persons were commanded to quit White Hall, and a Committee being appointed to go to Richard Cromwel, to require his Resignation of the Government, and an account of his Debts. As to the first being urged, he said, ' That he had learnt not to be unquiet under Gods hand, and should cause all persons, relating to him, to behave themselves peaceably under the Government, from whom he expected protection. Then he gave them a Transcript of his Debts by his Steward, amounting to 29640*l.* which they discharged him of, and gave him a protection for six months, having taken

taken all the Jewels, Plate, and Household-stuff whatsoever, in White-Hall, into their possession ; and so Richard being dismisse, retired into the Country.

The Remnant of the Long Parliament were now termed the Rump, in Scorn, a Name first given them by Mr. Walker in his History of Independency in 1648. but was almost lost by the height of their prosperity, till the discontents of the people, for the strange unsettledness of the Government, revived it again. They now advanced the pay of the Souldiery, the Foot a penny, and the Horse three pence a day, thereby to oblige them : Coll. Alured, and Overton, were taken into favour, Captain Lawton was made Vice-Admiral at Sea, and Lord Montague designed to be laid aside ; Lord Lockhart was confirmed Governor of Dunkirk, and Ambassadors and Envoys were sent to the Parliament from France, Holland, Poland, Sweden, Genoa, Portugal, and the Hans Towns, so far had the dread of their former successes possessed most of the Princes and States of Europe ; and Henry Cromwel quietly surrendered the Government of Ireland by their Order to the L. Chancellor Steel, and Miles Corbet, chief Baron of the Exchequer. They then published a Proclamation for all Royalists, Priests and Jesuits, to depart twenty miles from London before Aug. 1. following, and several were committed to the Tower for corresponding with K. Charles.

At the same time News came of Insurrections in several places, as at Tunbridge and Redhill, under the D. of Richmond, Mr. Sackville Crow, and Mr. Penruddock : Likewise at Gloucester by Coll. Massey ; in Essex by Sir Tho. Leventhorp, and Sir Tho. Fanshaw, but were all soon supprest by the vigilance of the Council of State, who sat Night and Day, great numbers of prisoners being brought to London every day ; but the most formidable was the rising of Sir George Booth in Cheshire, with several other persons of Quality, who raised Forces in divers places,

ees, and Rendezouzed above three thousand at Routon-Heath, publishing a Declaration that they took up Arms for a Free Parliament, and to unyoke the Nation from the slavery of those men at Westminster. Another appearance was at Sherwood Forrest in Nottingham-shire : But M. Gen. Lambert was commissioned to march with three Regiments of Horse, three of Foot, and some Dragoons, to reduce them, and the House proclaimed them Traytors. Lambert coming to the borders of Cheshire, and Sir Georges party not much increasing, they yet resolved to venture a Battel, and drew up near Nantwich, having the Rivers before them, and the Bridges Guarded, but Lamberts Horse and Foot resolutely falling on together at the Bridge, the Fight was soon over, not above thirty being killed, and five hundred taken prisoners, and most of the Gentlemen and Officers ; Sir George Booth escaped out of the Field with four of his Servants, but was taken at Newport Pannel in a Womans disguise, and brought prisoner, with others, to the Tower of London.

Lambert was ordered to have a Jewel of 1000*l.* for a gratuity from the Parliament for his Cheshire-service, but he desired the Parliament that they would pay off the Militia, and the Irish Forces, who came over to his assistance, and the Widows of such as were drowned in their passage hither ; likewise to search into the late Insurrection, and who were concerned therein, which they did accordingly so close, as to bring Sir Anthonie Ashley Cooper one of the Council of State (afterward Earl of Shaftsbury) into suspicion, as really he was a principal in the Plot, having been of the Cabal, and had kept intelligence with Sir George Booth, and so was General Monk, who the better to conceal his resentments, upon the News of the Defeat, secured most of the Scotch Nobility in divers Castles, for refusing to take the Engagement against King and House of Lords, but the

great opinion the Parliament had of them stopt the mouths of their Accusers. They had likewise got one of the Kings Letters, dated May 16. and other papers which were read in the House, and a Proclamation for a Thanksgiving-day thereupon published for this their great preservation.

Soon after M. Gen. Lambert, and some other Officers, drew up a Petition for a General for the Army, which the House having notice of, and remembering how General Cromwell, of their Servant, soon became their Master and turned them out of doors, they Voted, ' That to have any more General Officers in the Army, than are already settled by the Parliament, was unnecessary, burdensome, and dangerous to the Commonwealth. Notwithstanding which, Lambert being come to Town, and sitting amongst the Council of Officers, they concluded on their Petition, and ordered it to be presented to the Parliament by M. Gen. Desborough, which he did accordingly Octob. 4. as the sense of the Army, who coming with such Attendance, and from such Authority, the House told him, ' That they would take it into consideration the first business; and nothing to intervene, when they came to debate it some of the Officers named Charles Fleetwood for General, but the House would not consent to it, and fearing a Force would be put upon them, they resolved to leave Lambert and his Officers without Money, instantly passing an Act, ' That it should be Treason for any person or persons to Levy Money without the consent of Parliament; and Octob. 12. they Voted, ' That the several Commissions of M. G. Lambert, Desborough, Berry, Kelsey, Ashfeild, Cobbet, Parker, Barrow, and Major Creed, should be vacated, and that the Government of the Army should be managed by seven Commissioners, namely, Lt. Gen. Fleetwood, Ludlow, Gen. Monk, Haslerig, Walton, Morley, and Oyerton, and the Serjeant

• Serjeant at Arms was commanded to attend those
• cashier'd Officers with these Orders and Resolu-
• tions.

But, whilst the Parliament are thus quick in their resolutions, Lambert having strengthned his party, and drawn as many of the Souldiery as he could from the obedience of the Parliament, resolved once more to put an end to their sitting, rather than lose their Commissions. The Parliament over Night having notice what they intended, next day, ordered all the Forces that were yet faithful to them, to be drawn to Westminster to Guard them next day ; Coll. Mosses, and Coll. Morleys Regiments, accordingly came to the Palace-Yard early next morning, but Lambert, with the rest of the Army, soon after surrounded them, and about eleven a Clock, Octob. 13. the Speaker coming to the House in his Coach was turned back by Lieutenant Coll. Duckenfeild, and Lambert on Horseback faced the Regiments of Morley and Moss till toward Night, the Army resolving not to fight with one another, so that in the evening being reconciled by the Council of State, they returned peaceably to their Quarters.

Lambert having thus over-master'd his Masters, and dismissed the Parliament from sitting any longer, upon consultation with the other Officers they send Coll. Barrow to Ireland, and Coll. Cobbet to Scotland, to gain the Armies there, if possible, to join them. Then they chose Fleetwood for their General, Lambert Lieutenant General, and Desborough Commissary General of the Horse, and next proceed to settle a Council, which they called A Committee of Safety, consisting of twenty three persons, who were to consider of a form of Government, the Council of Officers at the same time emitting a Declaration, shewing the reasons of the late change, And do thereby disanul the pretended Act of Treason, Octob. 10. to Levy
• Money

Money without consent in Parliament, as done precipitately and unduly, and not according to the custom of Parliament, declaring likewise for the Ministry, and the maintenance of it by a less vexatious way than that of Tythes; for Liberty of Conscience, and that the Army will not meddle in Civil Affairs, but refer the Civil and Executive power to the Council of State or Safety, to provide for the Government, and to set up a free State without King, single person, or House of Lords. About this time died John Bradshaw, President of the pretended High Court of Justice, and Edmund Prideaux Attorney General.

Whilst Affairs were in this distracted posture, General Monk having dismiss all the Officers in Scotland that he knew were disaffected to the Parliament, declared his unsatisfiedness with those proceedings of the Army, and that he resolved to assert the Parliamentary Interest, and committed Major Cobbet, sent from the Army to him, to Enderburgh castle, and several other Regiments in England offering him their service, he resolved to march toward London; but the Committee of Safety being still in hope to win him over by fair means, they send Dr. Clarges and Collonel Talbot, to mediate with him, and likewise Mr. Caryl, and Mr. Barker, Ministers in London: And lastly, Collonel Goff, and Whaley, with the two last, he refused to Treat, but the former he received with all demonstrations of civility, professing his readiness to join with the Army in England, provided they would restore the Parliament to their Rights and Priviledges, and that then he would use his utmost endeavours to compose differences; and to prevent Blood-shed, he had ordered three Commissioners to go to London, if

if possible to make a fair end of the controversie. These Commissioners met Lambert in Yorkshire on his march thither, with all the strength of the Army, both Horse and Foot, and so numerous, that if Monk had not amused them with this Treaty, they would soon have prevailed against him ; but Lambert judging all matters would have been adjusted, proceeded no further, and the Commissioners being arrived at London, the Council of Officers appointed three others to treat with him, who in two days brought things to the following result and agreement.

- 1. The utter renouncing of Charles Stuart, or any other claiming from that Family.
- 2. The Government to be a Free State without King, sine le Person, or House of Lords.
- 3. That a Godly and Learned Ministry be maintained and encouraged.
- 4. The Universities to be reformed and countenanced, so as to become the Nurseries of Piety and Learning.
- 5. The Officers and Soldiers to be indemnified.
- 6. The Officers prisoners in Scotland to be released.
- 7. The Armies on both sides presently to depart to their respective Quarters.
- 8. That there be a Committee of Nineteen, consisting of five persons for England, and five for Scotland, not Members of the Army, and three for England, three for Scotland, and three for Ireland, of the House ; and of these Nineteen, nine to be of a Quorum, and to meet and determine what is necessary for the qualifications of a Parliament ; to meet December 6. at Westminster.

When the Commissioners returned to Scotland, Gen. Monk imprisoned Coll. Wilks, one of the Commissioners, who was most forward to consent to this Agreement, as not understanding the Intrigue so well as Coll. Clobery, and Major Knight, his Colleagues ; for the General having further designs, issued out Writs by his own Precept and Authority, for a Convention

vention of the Nobility and Commons in Scotland, who being met, he recommended to them the security of the peace of the Countrey in his absence, being constrained to march into England in defence of the Parliament and our Laws, and desired their assistance by raising him Money for this Expedition : To which they consented, though with some difficulty, considering their poverty ; yet they told him, That confiding in his Noble and Honourable design, they would raise him twelve months Assessment, which amounted to 60000*l.* and the Revenues of the Excise and Customs besides.

And now the Committee of safety finding the weakness of their new Government, and that the City and Country were generally disaffected to them, resolue to raise several new Regiments of Horse and Foot, and likewise put out a Proclamation that they designed to call another Parliament very suddenly, being now upon the Qualifications : General Monk was now marched to Berwick, and Haslerig, Morley, with some others, at the same time getting into Portsmouth, presently seized upon some of the Officers of Wallingford House, and declared for the Long Parliament, and several other Regiments of the Army joined with them therein. Then began Tumults in London, and Petitions were presented to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, to declare for a free Parliament, both against the Army and Rump (as they called them) which though the Committee of Safety forbid under high penalties, yet no regard was had to them, nor application made by any person but their own Officers ; so that things being brought to this height, by the concurrence of the Presbyterian and the Royalists, these Petitions were carried on, and high things resolved upon, Shops being shut up, and the Publick only minded, people running in clusters in the Streets to hear, and tell News. Upon this the Officers at Wallingford-House sent

Collonel

Collonel Hewson with his Regiment into the City, to quell these Tumults, who bidding them be gone, upon refusal ordered his Musqueteers to fire, who killed two men about the Royal Exchange ; Horse and Foot were also Quartered in the Streets, and round the City.

Lambert finding no good to be done by Treaty, having wasted the Country about Newcastle with free Quarter, which he was forced to do, having no Money, and being already almost undone himself to supply the Souldiers, he thereupon resolved to march forward with his gallant and numerous Army, and fight General Monk. But in the interim, the rage of the people increasing, the Committee of Safety published a Proclamation for calling a Parliament, Jan. 24. following, upon sundry Qualifications which were to be formed out of these seven Fundamentals : 1. No King. 2. No single person. 3. The Army to be continued. 4. Liberty of Conscience. 5. No House of Peers. 6. The Legitative and Executive power to be distinct. 7. Both Assemblies of Parliament and Council of State to be chosen by the people.

This still more inflamed the Commonalty, and Vice-Admiral Lawson at the same time declares for the Parliament, and came up the River with his Fleet. Moreover, Sir Arthur Hasleig, and the rest, were advancing from Portsmouth toward London ; whereupon, the Council of Officers beginning to stagger in their Resolutions, concluding on one thing and then resolving the contrary, the Souldiers resolved to provide for their own security, and being managed by some of the Parliaments Agents here in Town, they leave their Officers, and Muster themselves in Lincolns-Inn-Fields, under the Collonels Okey, Alured, Markham, and others, testifying with shouts their Resolutions to return to the obedience of the Parliament, and so marching from thence

thence to the Speakers House in Chancery-lane, they all submitted themselves to his commands as the Parliaments Souldiers ; and at the same time came News from Ireland, that Sir Hardress Waller, and others his Associates, had declared for the Parliament also.

Decemb. 26. The Parliament were again re-established, and the Committee of Safety, and Council of Officers, vanished from Wallingford-House. They firt fell upon consideration of rai-
sing Moneys by Excise and Custom, and then to give some satisfaction to the Nation, began to consider the case of absent Members, and filling up their House, and that they might dissipate the great danger from their Enemy Lambert in the North, they order the Disbanding of alt such Forces as had been raised without Authority of Parliament, and that the Arms should be returned into the publick Stores, and that all the Forces in the North repair to such Quarters as shall be appointed by the Commissioners of the Army ; and then ordered thanks to be returned to General Monk, Vice-Admiral Lawson, and the Portsmouth Commissioners, acknowledging their Fidelity and good Service.

General Monk having declined the former Treaty agreed to by his Commissioners, to gain time agreed upon a second Treaty at Newcastle, during which this Turn happened at London ; he therefore re-solves to proceed upon his march to London, tak-
ing up Horses to mount his Foot, the Parliament seeming to approve of his actions, for fear of displeasing him. His march was slow to observe the temper of the Country, and keep his Army in good Health ; in the mean time Lamberts Army deserted him, and marched off in discontent, so that coming to Northallerton he had no more than fifty Horse left. When General Monk came to York, he was met by the Lord Fairfax, and other Gentlemen

of the County, by whom he was careſſed with all kind of affection, desiring him, ' To make the Nation happy, by restoring the Members secluded in 1648. and helping them to a full and free Parliament. This was likewise the ſubſtance of many Declarations which were tendred to the Speaker, and the City of London, from ſeveral Counties; and this also was the purport of thoſe other Addresses which he received from the Gentry of all places in his march, as well as of a Letter ſent from the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, by their Sword-Bearer. To all which Addresses he returned very doubtful Answers, ſaying, ' That he both refolved to ſatisfie their desires for a free Parliament, and yet resolved to continue faithful to this Parliament, giving the people matter of hope, and taking from the Parliament all cauſe of discontent.

General Monk arrived at London Feb. 3. 1659. after a long and tedious march, and took up his Lodgings at White-Hall, the Army that Quartered in London marching out the day before to make room for his Forces. He was next day by the Parliament desired to come to the House, and Mr. Scot and Robinson were ſent to attend him, where being come, the Speaker expreſt the high eſteem the House had of his Merits, and gave him hearty thanks for them.

Monk anſwered them, extolling the mercy of their Reſtoration, and acknowledging the goodness of God to him in making him Instrumental therein, which was but his Duty, and deserved not the honour they had done him. He told them of the many Addresses to him in his Journey for a free and full Parliament, and that this Parliament would determine their ſitting. That as to the secluded Members, he anſwered them, That this Parliament had already given their Judgments, in which all ought to Acquiesce, and that no Parliament had admitted new Members to ſit without a previous

Oath or Engagement ; and he now saith it to the Parliament, That the less Oaths and Engagements are imposed, the settlement will be the sooner attained, and he hoped the Parliament would be careful that neither the Cavalier, nor Phanatick party, have yet a share in the Civil and Military power. Part of this Speech troubled and amused some of his Masters the Parliament, and how himself persued what he pretended will afterward appear.

At this time Sir Henry Vane, and Major Salloway, were ejected out of the House as being Instruments in their interruption, and Lambert was committed to the Tower, but the Parliament growing jealous of Monk, consult how to abridge his power, and the City continuing Male-content, refusing to pay any Money without the consent of a full Parliament, and finding his strength to consist in the affections of the Citizens, they send him, Feb. 9. into the City, with part of his Army, he taking his Quarters near Guild-Hall, where he was caressed by several principal Citizens, but he granted them nothing, only sent to the House to know what he should do, who immediately return these Votes for an answer, ' That he should instantly pull down and destroy the Gates, Posts, Chains, and Portcullices of the City ; which he accordingly put in Execution, and also committed several principal Citizens, who had been active against them, Prisoners to the Tower.

These actions extreamly startled all men, but he resolved to try whether the City would be constant to him in his further designs, being satisfied that he was employed in this business only to make him odious to them. They likewise fell to abate his power by joining coll. Haslerig, Morley, Walton, and others, in commission with him for the Government of the Army ; whereupon, at his return to White-Hall, he sent them a Letter, expostulating with them for their last injurious commands, telling them,

‘ Of their countenancing and abetting such as they
‘ had seemingly declared their Enemies, and had
‘ been the occasion of their last overthrow, which
‘ were then in Town hatching designs for the ruin of
‘ all, and minding them of an ill petition lately pre-
‘ sented to them against a free Parliament, and
‘ that no man might have any Office in Church
‘ or State, but who would absolutely abjure and re-
‘ nounce Charles Stuart, and all his Family, and
‘ any single person whatsoever; and then he con-
‘ cludes with a prefixed time by which they would
‘ resolve to issue out Writs for a new Parliament,
‘ and dissolve themselves, which both the Army and
‘ Nation longingly expected.

To inforce this, Feb. 11. in the morning he gives Order for his Army, both Horse and Foot, to march into London, and accordingly he comes on the back side of the Town to Finsbury-fields, where he Musters them, and goes himself, with several of his Officers, to Dinner at the Lord Mayors. At Night they marched into the City, where Quarters were provided for them, and the Citizens express their joy by Bells, Bone-fires, roasting of Rumps of Mutton and Beef in contempt of the Parliament, and all other signs of rejoicing, Money being thrown among the Souldiers, and the Speaker at his return from the House being in danger of his life.

The General continued in the City disarming those he thought disaffected to the Kings Interest. Some conferences were held between the Members then sitting and the secluded ones, and some Qualifications being agreed on, Of abjuring King and House of Lords, the House seem to resolve to send out new Writs for Electing a Parliament, but General Monk having now all the power in his hands, and not approving of those previous engagements, upon Feb 21. he marched back with his Army to Westminster and many of the secluded Members being there ready

ready by his order, he met them at White-Hall, where having recommended to them the care of the National Interest, yet in such Terms as the other party might not absolutely despair, he went with them to the House of Commons, and saw them admitted safely into it after twelve years absence.

The secluded Members being in, they fail to work in good earnest, ordering the release of all prisoners for petitioning for a free Parliament, annulled several Votes made in 1648. about the Death of the King, new Model the Militia throughout England, nominating the principal Gentry, yet with this proviso, ' That they should subscribe that the War was law-~~ful~~ against the late King till 1648. when the Parliament was forcibly broken. They likewise confirmed the Confession of Faith formerly made by the Assembly of Divines, and Enacted, ' That it should be the Confession of Faith of the Church of England, except only the thirty and thirty one Article concerning Church Censures and Synods, and the Solemn League and Covenant was hung up in the Churches in London. They constitute Gen. Monk, with Gen. Montague, to be Generals at Sea, and annul the Ingagement against King and House of Lords. They pass an Act for Summoning a new Parliament, in the Name of the Keepers of the Liberties of the Common-wealth of England, with the following Qualifications : ' That all persons who have advised, aided, or any ways assisted or abetted the Rebellion in Ireland: All those who profess the Popish Religion: All that advised, and voluntarily aided in the War against the Parliament in 1641. unless they have since given manifestation of their good affection, shall be incapable of being elected Members for the ensuing Parliament, and no person, unless thus qualified, to sit in the House under a great penalty. They also released several persons from Imprisonment, and passed some

Orders for securing the peace of the Nation, and quieting the Army, and having chosen a Council of State of several considerable persons, to govern during the Interval, they passed an Act for dissolving the Parliament, March 16. and calling another to meet April 25. 1660.

The Council of State acted with such moderation that they kept the Nation in peace, notwithstanding some designs that were managed by the Officers of the Army, for Lambert made his escape out of the Tower, April 11. and got to Edghill, where Major Creed, and two or three hundred Horse joined him, and more were daily coming in to him, yet Collonel Ingoldsby meeting him with a stronger party, Lambert desired a parley, and proposed the re-admission of Richard Cromwel to the Government, but this being waved, and seeing Coll. Ingoldsby ready to fall on, and that some of his Troops revolted from him, he cryed out to him, ' Pray my Lord let me escape, what good will my life, or perpetual imprisonment, do you? Yet he could not avoid being taken by Coll. Ingoldsbys own hands, and was re-committed to the Tower. Some other small stirs appeared in several Counties, but were all soon suppressed, and the Authors imprisoned.

April 25. 1660. both Houses of Parliament met at St. Margarets Westminster, and heard a Sermon preached by Dr. Reynolds, and then the Commons chose Sir Harbottle Grimstone their Speaker, and the Lords the Earl of Manchester, and ordered a Fast to be kept, April 27. wherein Dr. Reynolds, and Mr. Hardy, preached before the Lords, and Dr. Gauden, Mr. Calamy, and Mr. Baxter, before the Commons. They likewise ordered a Thanksgiving-day to be kept, May 10. and Voted the Thanks of both Houses to be given to General Monk, with an acknowledgment of his unparalleled Services for the good of the Nation.

King Charles had a full account of all these Transactions, and was highly Treated at Paris by the Duke of Orleans, with such assurance of his Restoration, that he passed publickly in State to Brussels, and from thence removed his Court to Breda in Holland, a Town belonging to the Prince of Orange, where he continued till the sitting of the Parliament, and May 1. Sir John Greenvil brought the Kings gracious Letters and Declarations to both Houses of Parliament, likewise to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-council, and to General Monk, and the Officers under his command; together with a Letter to General Montague, and the Commanders at Sea. The substance whereof was, ' That the King granted a Free and General pardon to all his Subjects whatsoever, that shall within forty days after publication thereof, lay hold upon that Grace, or by any publick Act declare their doing so, such only excepted as the Parliament shall think fit: That none shall be disturbed in matters of Religion; the publick Sales and Purchases to be determined by Parliament; the Army and Navy to be paid their Arrears, and enter into the Kings Service, &c.

This Letter and Declaration being read, it was Voted unanimously by both Houses, ' That according to the Ancient and Fundamental Laws of this Kingdom, the Government is, and ought to be by King, Lords and Commons. Next day they agreed upon a Letter in answer to the Kings, giving him thanks for his gracious Offers, and ordering 5000*l.* to be sent him as a Present, and a 1000*l.* to the Dukes of York and Gloucester each, and the Thanks of the House were given to Sir John Greenvil, and 500*l.* to buy him a Jewel: And soon after, six Lords, twelve Commoners, and twenty Aldermen and Citizens, were sent to invite the King over to the Exercise of the Government; several Presbyterian Ministers likewise, who were very zealous for the Kings

Restoration, accompanied them, that party having then the greatest Interest in the Nation, and General Monk who came from Scotland with the blessing of the Presbyterian Kirk, having all along appeared very obliging to them.

When the Ministers arrived at Breda, they were received with much kindness and respect, and reiterated promises made them of Liberty of Conscience, and Moderation in Ecclesiastical matters, thereby to heal all the differences and distractions that had so long disturbed these Nations. And it is said, the King being at his Devotions in his Closet, one of the most eminent of the Ministers was placed so near that he heard the King praying aloud extempore, in the following terms, 'Lord, since thou art pleased to restore me to the Throne of my Ancestors, grant me a heart constant in the Exercise and Protection of thy true Protestant Religion; never may I seek the oppression of those who out of tenderness of their Consciences are not free to conform to outward and indifferent ceremonies. The old Gentleman was overjoyed to hear such pious Expressions, and giving notice of his serious discourse and carriage to those in England, that party cried up his Piety to the height, declaring even in their Pulpits, 'That God had sent them a Religious King, who was in Covenant with him, and that it was not the Red-coats, but the Black-coats, that were the chief Instruments in his Restitution.

After the King had been Treated with all manner of magnificence by the States of Holland, the Entertainment and Presents given him being computed to cost them above an hundred thousand pounds, he departed from thence accompanied with Prince William of Nassau, and the Admiral of Holland, having the Prince of Orange before him, being in the midst of his two Brothers, the Dukes of York and on Horseback, the Ladies attending him in

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Thus I have given a succinct relation of the most material passages that happened from the Death of Oliver Cromwel to the Kings Restoration, whereby it appears that upon Cromwells Life depended the Fortune of his Family, which soon sunk after his expiration, and those that then undertook the Government, being unskillful Workmen, who could never come to any settlement, they wearied the people with their continual Changes and Revolutions, so that many of their Friends, as well as their Enemies, concurred to restore the Ancient Monarchy of the Nation, tho' it might seem to be much against many mens particular Interests, especially those that had bought

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publick Lands, which would certainly revert to their first Owners; as there being, as it was said, near fourscore thousand principal and inferior Purchasers of that kind, it is the more wonderful to consider that all sorts of people should seem to conspire to the Kings Restoration.

That Night the King arrived at White-hall, the Lords and Commons waited upon him at the Banqueting-Houle, and congratulated his Return: The next morning he came to the House, and passed an Act for preventing all disputes about the sitting of this Parliament and several others, and recommended to them the speedy passing an Act of Oblivion, and the Parliament did Resolve, ' That the House doth declare, That they do in the Name of themselves, and all the Commons of England, lay hold on His Majesties Gracious pardon mentioned in his Declaration, with reference to the excepting of such as shall be excepted in an Act of Pardon; and accordingly a Declaration was made and presented to the King by Mr. Denzil Hollis, after Lord Hollis. They then proceeded upon the Act of Indemnity, and ordered, ' That the Actual Judges of the King should be excepted, together with some others, as Andrew Broughton, Phelps, John Cook, Hugh Peters, and Edward Dendy Serjeant at Arms, both as to Life and Estate; and that M. General Lambert, Sir Henry Vane, with twenty others, should be reserved to such Forfeitures as should be by the Parliament declared, not extending to Life. This Act being finished the King passed it, with another for Disbanding the Army, (and paying off the Navy) which after many Modles came at last to its Dissolution.

At this time, a little to sownre the Felicities of the Court, the Duke of Gloucester died, Sept. 13. 1660. of the Small-Pox, aged twenty two years and two months,

months, and the Parliament was the same day adjourned to Nov. 6. following. General Monk was now created Duke of Albemarle, and several others advanced to Honour: The Princess of Orange came to London, Sept. 25. to congratulate her Brothers Happiness, but died Nov. 24. following, of the Small-Pox likewise.

During the Interval of Parliament, the Kings Judges were brought to their Tryal at the Old-Baily, and in October Major Gen. Harrison, Coll. Adrian Scroop, John Carew, Thomas Scot, Gregory Clements, John Jones, John Cook, Hugh Peters, Daniel Axtel, Francis Hacker, were Tryed and Condemned for High Treason, and Executed at Charing-crof. William Hewlet was condemned for being the Man in the Frock that cut off the Kings Head, but there being several Witnesses who attested that it was done by Brandon the common Executioner, he was Reprieved, and suffered not. Daniel Harvey, Isaac Pennington, Henry Marten, Gilbert Millington, Robert Tichbourn, Owen Ross, Robert Lilburn, John Smith, John Downes, William Potter, Augustine Garland, Symon Meyne, James Temple, Peter Temple, Thomas Wayt, William Herringham, and Sir Hardres Waller, who came in upon the Proclamation, were all condemned, but respite from Execution till the pleasure of the Parliament should be known, and in the mean time were remitted to the Tower, and their Estates seized to the Kings use, who bestowed them on his Brother the Duke of York. Not any one of those that suffered (saith my Author) expressed any sorrow or repentance for the Fact, but justified the Authority by which they did it, and themselves therein, though they were condemned according to Law by the 25. of Edward 3. and by a Jury of Peers, against whom they had Liberty of Exception.

Downes desired to be heard by the Court, as to one
B 4. remarkable

remarkable passage, ' That as he sat in the High
Court of Justice (as they called it) between Coll
Wanton, Mr. Cawley, and Oliver Cromwel, upon
the Kings desire of being heard in Parliament, he
said, What have we hearts of Stone, or are we
Men ? They laboured to appease him, saying
He would ruin both himself and them. Said Downes
' If I dye for it I must do it : Cromwel sat below
him, and ask'd wht he meant to do, and if he wa
himself, that he could not be quiet ; so just when
Bradshaw commanded the Clerk to read the Sentence
he stepped up and said, ' My Lords, I have Rea
sons to offer against it, and I desire the Court may
' Adjourn to hear me. Bradshaw reviled him, and
said, ' If any Member dissented they must Adjourn
So they did into the Court of Wards, where Downes
alleged, ' That the King had given general satis
faction to the Parliament, That a common prisoner
was not used so, but had the liberty to be heard
and that upon any emergency the Parliament had
ordered they shoul. supply to them, and that it
would be much hel. ~~h~~ heartedness in them to pro
nounce Sentence against the King in these circum
stances. To which Oliver Cromwel answered
Sure you do not know that you have to deal with
the hardest hearted man in England. And many
such arguments were used by others, who told
Downes, ' That he was either a Sceptick or an Inf
del.

Nov. 2. The Queen Mother, the Princess Henrietta
and Prince Edward, elder Brother to Prince Rupert
arrived at London, and the sixth of the same month
the Parliament met again ; and a Parliament assem
bled in Scotland, Jan. 1. who rescinded the solemn
League and Covenant, and declared the power of the
Militia to be in the King, and likewise pass an Act for
Atcainting the Marquess of Argile, who was come
from Scotland, hoping to have obtained his pardon

of the King, but was seized by the Kings Order while he was waiting at Court. He desired to speak with the King but was refused, likewise with Mr. Edmund Calamy the Minister, but was denied (for Mr. Calamy and Mr. Baxter, both Presbyterian Ministers, were then Chaplains to the King.) He was conveyed by Sea to Edinburgh, and a while after condemned and beheaded there ; and if we may believe a modern Author, this severity toward him proceeded from an old grudge when the King was in Scotland in 1650. the Marquess undertaking to reprove him, when the Ministers were afraid to do it, for committing some violence upon the person of a Lady of Quality.

Jan. 6. A strange and unparallel'd Action happened in London, for about fifty persons who were termed Fifth Monarchy-men, had a Meeting in Swan-Alley in Coleman-street, where Thomas Verner, and others, use to preach to them out of the Prophesies of Daniel and the Revelations, and from thence drew strange inferences, persuading their Congregation to take up Arms for King Jesus against the Powers of the Earth, (which they interpreted to be the King, the Duke of York, General Monk and their Adherents) assuring them, That no Weapons formed against them should prosper, nor a Hair of their Heads be touched, since one should chase a thousand, and two should put ten thousand to flight : That they were to destroy all that opposed, and that they had been praying and preaching, but not acting for God. These Euthusiastick Notions so animated their Followers, that on Sunday Evening, after their Meeting, they Armed themselves, and came to St. Pauls in the dusk of the Evening, where having Muster'd, and ordered their small party, they placed Centinels for the Time, one of whom killed a person, who upon demand said, ' He was for God and King Charles. This gave an alarm to the City,

and the Trained Bands being upon the Guard, some Files of men were sent against them, whom these desperate people quickly routed, and marched to Bishopsgate, where they passed without opposition, and from thence to Cripplegate, where they came into the City again, and so to Aldersgate, where the Constable being weakly attended, they threatening him for the Keys, he let them out again. Here they declared for King Jesus again, and then proceeded to Beech-Jane, where they killed an Headborough that opposed them, and then hastened to Canewood, about two Miles from the City, where they continued awhile, but were routed from thence by a party of Horse and Foot, and several taken prisoners, and brought before General Monk, who committed them to the Gate-House; the King being then at Portsmouth to conduct his Mother and Sister in order to their Imbarcation for France, and it was then said, That upon the first News of this Insurrection, not knowing how it might increase, he was thinking to go along with them for his security. On Wednesday morning, Jan. 9. the remainder of them resolved to make another attempt, having dispersed a Declaration, called, A Door of Hope, full of severe Reflections upon the whole Royal Family, and appeared first in Threadneedle-street, and alarm'd the Trained Bands on the Royal Exchange, a party of whom being sent to follow them, were forced to retire to their Main-Guard, who marching in a Body they retreated to Bishopsgate-street, where two men were killed, and as many wounded, and the like number of the Trained Bands. The next sight of them was at Colledge-Hill, from whence they march'd up into Cheapside, and so into Woodstreet, Venner being their chief Leader, having a Murrion on his Head, and an Halbert in his Hand: Here they fought stoutly with two Companies of the Trained Bands in very good Order and Discipline. Here al-

so they received a Charge from the Horse of the Life Guard, whom they forced to retreat, till being over-powered, and Venner knock'd down, and wounded with shot, and two more of the chief killed, they fled several ways, some down Woodstreet, firing at the yellow Regiment of Trained Bands that followed them, and lodged ten of them in the Blue Anchor Alehouse by the Postern, which they maintained, and though the Tiles of the House were thrown off, and they fired in upon them, yet they refused Quarter, when at that very time another File of Musqueteers got up the Stairs, and having shot down the Door, entred upon them ; six of them were killed before, another wounded, and one refusing Quarter was knock'd down with the But end, and after shot with a Musquet. The rest being demanded why they craved not Quarter before, answered, ' They durst not for fear their own Fellows should shoot them ; such was their resolution and desperation.

In this Tumult and Insurrection were slain of the Kings people twenty two, and as many of the Enemy, and twenty were taken, five of whom had been in the like design against Oliver Cromwel in 1657. They were Tryed at the Old-Baily, Jan. 17. Venner confessed he was in the late Rising, but was not guilty of Treason, intending not to Levy War against the King, and at his Death said little but in vindication of his Fast, being confident the time was at hand when other Judgment would be given ; and at his Tryal when the Judge charged him with the Blood of his Complices, answered He did it not : But being again charged by the Witness that saw him, he replied, ' It was not he, but Jesus that led them. Under such an Infatuation did he still remain ; sixteen of them were condemned, and twelve executed in and about the City, Venner and Hodgskin in Coleman-street, at the end of Swan-Alley, against their to

their Meeting-House. Thus was this freakish Insurrection soon suppress'd without any further mischief, but what the Enemies to Peace and Moderation un-happily occasioned, by representing all Dissenters, from the Established Government of the Church, to be of the same temper; and though the Nonconformists of all parties did at that time, by their publick Addresses and Declarations to the King, absolutely renounce, and deny the principles and practices of these wild and extravagant people, and by their future obedience demonstrated the same, yet were these stirr made use of to the obtaining of those severe Acts against sober Dissenters, which by the cunning and policy of our implacable Romish Adversaries, were employed for inflaming the Spirits of Protestants against each other, whilst in the mean time they themselves were undermining our Religion and Liberties, as it hath since plainly appeared.

For many wise men being of the opinion, that ~~Arch~~ Bishop Laud's carrying things so high, and with such furious Zeal for Ceremonies, and Squablings about Freewill, and his standing upon Purstilio's concerning the Service-Book, and its Rubricks, and bringing them into the State, did declare him to be a better Ecclesiastick than a Politician (as Mr. Hobbs says) and was one great occasion of preparing the people to ingage against the King in the Troubles that followed soon after, many things having been left indifferent by A. Bishop Abbot his Predecessor, who was accounted a wise and good man. Upon these and other considerations, it was very much hoped that there would have been a friendly agreement among Protestants of all denominations, especially when the King had published a Declaration this year 1661. touching Ecclesiastical Affairs, wherein Liberty is given as to the use or omitting of several indifferent things, for which the Presbyterian Ministers of London, and the House of Commons too, return-

ed him their humble Thanks, as making for publick concord ; the Earl of Manchester, Earl of Orrery, and several other persons of Honour, being instrumental in procuring the same. But this being against the interest of some great and revengeful Spirits, this Healing Parliament, as the King called it, (though some think not heartily) was Dissolved, and Writs issued out for chusing another, May 8. following, wherein a great number of young Gentlemen, whose Families had suffered by the Civil Wars, being Elected, their Spirits were so sownred and imbittered, as prevented that happy Coalition which might have been expected from a people who had already suffered so much by their former Divisions and Distractions.

April 23. 1661. The King was Crowned with great Magnificence at Westminster-Abbey, having passed from the Tower of London to White-Hall the day before, through four Triumphal Arches, built by the Citizens for his Entertainment, inriched with divers Paintings and Motto's, one of which seemed somewhat ominous, being applied to the Duke of York, the Motto was, *Magnæ Spes Altera Rome*, The second mighty Hope of Rome ; which we have seen fulfill'd, even to the loss of his Crown and Kingdom.

May 8. 1661. The Parliament met at Westminster, and the King in his Speech declared his content in meeting them, most of them being known to him, and acquainted them with his resolution of Marrying the Infanta of Portugal, and that he thought none of them would willingly have him live and dye a Bachelor : But as an excellent person has lately observed, God has not blessed these Matches with Roman Catholicks, for this Marriage gave great encouragement to the Papists, and their Liberty of Religion being inserted in the Articles of Marriage, swarms of Priests and Jesuits came over, and were screened from the Law under pretence of belonging to

to the Queens Chappel Royal, and with their usual policies made the breaches wider among Protestants ; and many good men were concerned that the King should chuse a Papist to his Wife, when he might have matched with several Protestant Princesses, with greater advantages both to himself and the King-
dom.

The Parliament soon after their sitting, passed an Act for repealing that of the 17. of Charles I. against the Bishops meddling in Civil Judicature and Affairs, restoring them to their places in the House of Lords ; and to shew the warmth of the temper of the House of Commons, they were very earnest for repealing the Act of Indemnity passed in the last Parliament, insomuch that the King, either out of inclination, or doubting that it might re-kindle a flame again in the Nation, interposed his Authority, and declared, ' That he was resolved to maintain that Act, and not suffer it to be altered and infringed in the least ; so that at length there passed an Act for confirmation thereof, and another for Regulating Corporations, empowering Commissioners to displace such as bore Offices, and were suspected not firm to the Kings Authority, or those that should refuse to take the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and abjure the Solemn League and Covenant as unlawful in it self, and illegally imposed. Mr. William Pryn, then a Member of the House, published certain Reasons against the said Bill, as contrary to Magna Charta, for which he was brought to the Bar and rebuked by the Speaker, and told that the necessity and peace of the Kingdom required this course, and the Supream Legislative power had thought fit to establish it. They likewise caused the Lord Munson, Sir Henry Mildmay, and Mr. Robert Wallop, to be called to the Bar as being concerned in the High Court of Justice, where there Estates were declared Confiscate, and they degraded from all Titles of Honours, and Sentenced

tenced to be drawn from the Tower through the City to Tyburn, Jan. 30. next, and so back again with Halters about their Necks upon Sledges, and to suffer perpetual Imprisonment ; and then the Parliament was adjourned from July 30. to Nov. 20. following.

About this time a Parliament began in Ireland after a like Convention as was in England, and the D. of Ormond was made Lord Lieutenant General of that Kingdom. The Queen of Bohemia, the Kings Aunt, after forty eight years absence, came to White-hall, where she was Married in 1612. to the Prince Elector Palatine. May 27. Mr. James Guthry a Presbyterian Minister, and Capt. Giffan, were Executed in Scotland by Sentence and Decree of Parliament ; who likewise declare the Militia to be in the King, and soon after Episcopacy was re-established in that Kingdom, and four Bishops consecrated at Lambeth and sent thither, to the great regret of the Presbyterians, who little thought of their Restoration, when they sent Gen. Monk into England with the blessing of the Kirk.

Nov. 20. The Parliament met after their adjournment, and the Bishops by virtue of the Act of Repeal of the last Sessions take their places, which the King in his Speech to the two Houses did congratulate to them as a felicity he much desired to see accomplished. On the 25th. of the same month, the Regicides who came in upon the Proclamation, were brought to the Bar of the Lords House, to shew cause why judgment upon them should not be Executed according to the Sentence : They all pleaded the Proclamation, which they understood did extend to the favour of Life, upon the rendring themselves thereupon ; as likewise, that as to the crime they were all of them guilty of no malice toward the person of the King. Henry Marten added, ' That he never obeyed any Proclamation, neither of

the

‘ the King nor his Father, before this, and hoped
‘ he should not be hanged for taking the Kings word
‘ now. They were all remanded back again to the
Tower, from whence they came, and no further
proceeding made concerning them. Nov. 19. John
James, a poor Small-cole Man, was seized upon Infor-
mation, That in a Meeting in White-chappel, he had
uttered Treasonable words against the King and Go-
vernment, which he denied to the Death, yet was
condemned and executed.

In this Session of Parliament the King recommend-
ed to them the turning his Declaration of Ecclesiasti-
cal Affairs (wherein were several Abatements and Al-
lowances as to ceremonies) into a Law, but though
the former Parliament returned His Majesty their
humble thanks for it, yet now the House of Commons
(being irritated by some revengeful Spirits of great
Interest, both Ecclesiastical and Civil, who resolved
to give the Dissenters no Quarter) established such
Laws as should quite ruin them, and to prepare the
King (who some think was willing enough of himself,
whatever semblance he made to the contrary) and
Parliament to pass such violent Acts, they set on Foot
a sham Presbyterian Plot in sixteen Counties, for in
this month, Nov. 1651. Sir J. P. a Knight, well
known, forges divers Treasonable Letters from sev-
eral Ministers and others, as one from Mr. Baxter, gi-
ving an account, ‘ That he had a considerable bo-
dy of men in readiness well Armed : And another
intimating, ‘ That one Capt. Yarranton was to be a
Commander of some Forces in those parts. These
Letters Sir J. P. delivers to a Neighbour of his, to
carry to one Cole an Agent of his, who was to carry
them to a Justice of Peace, which he did, and there
took an Oath, ‘ That a certain Scotch Pedler, who
‘ was putting up a great number of Letters into his
‘ Pack, seeing him was frighted, and run away, and
‘ for haste left this Packet behind him. These Let-

ters being opened, there instantly appeared a design in hand to raise a Rebellion, upon which the Trained Bands in Worcester-shire were raised, and marched to Worcester. They then secured a great many Ministers and others, and all peoples mouthes were filled with the noise of a Presbyterian Plot, but in ten days time the Trained Bands began to see into the Sham, and returned home, suffering all their Prisoners to do the like, except six who were strongly Guarded by sixty Footmen, which the fat Clergymen had raised and doubly paid ; and under this Spiritual Band they continued prisoners, not being allowed either to be Bailed or Tryed, but April 2. 1662. the person that carried the afore-mentioned Packet from Sir J. P. to Cole, discovered the whole Intrigue, whereupon the Ecclesiastical Detachment were suspended ab Officio, and the prisoners restored to their liberty, and never more questioned.

In Oxford a contrivance of the same nature was invented much about the same time, for a stranger comes one Night with a Letter to Mr. Martin the Town Clerk, and having delivered it immediately departs. The Letter was to this purpose, ' That Mr. Martin the Town Clerk should get his Men ready, as the Author of this Letter had sent to Mr. Hickman, Mr. Cornish, Dr. Connaught ; and as Dr. Greenwood had sent to Mr. Combs, and Dr. Owen to Mr. Fogge, and Dr. Gawin to Mr. Duke, every one to get his men in readiness, and that five Counties would rise that Night, and that he should not forget the Blunderbusses, &c. In this Letter was a List of 111 persons Names whom he was to Name ; Mr. Martin goes with it immediately to the Mayor of Oxford, who instantly dispatches a messenger with an account of it to the Lord Falkland, then a member of Parliament, as also to their Recorder, who was one of the Burgesses for the City, who immediately shewed it to one of the Secretaries

Secretaries of State. Hereby nothing was further done in it, but Mr. Martin was threatened and enjoined not to go out of Oxford within fourteen days, and that Night many of the Militia came into the City, and kept Guard for two days. Without dispute this Plot was much of the same stamp with the other Counties, and though they could make nothing out against the parties accused, yet they obtained their ends, for hereby they possess the King and Parliament that it was absolutely necessary to make some severe Act against these restless men that were always disturbing the Government; hereupon the Act of Uniformity was passed about this time, while many loudly declaimed against the Plot, and had not time enough to discover the cheat till afterwards. Thus did some men (as 'tis reported of Witches) procure the Nonconformists to be tormented merely by the Image of a Plot.

For though a Commission under the Great Seal was passed, for divers of the Episcopal and Presbyterian Clergy to meet at the Savoy, and to treat and agree about such alterations of the Liturgy as were necessary to tender Consciences, yet the old Bishops and Doctors, knowing the Kings mind, would not allow of the least abatement, but at last maintained, That none were necessary for them; which occasioned the House of Commons to offer several Reasons to the King against any Toleration or Relaxation whatsoever from the rigor of the penal Statutes, so that instead of ease their burthens were made heavier, and in a short time the Presbyterians, who had been the chief Authors of the Kings Restoration, (his own party being very inconsiderable at that time) were most ungratefully used, and above 2000 of their Ministers turned out of their Livings, their Families exposed to live in a great measure upon charity, and that by him whom they had brought from that condition himself, to the enjoyment of three Crowns. -

I shall add upon this occasion what an ingenious Author writes of this Transaction : ' I am told (saith he) that upon the Kings Return some of the Clergy had frequent meetings with the Divines of the other party, and that in their Feasts of Love they promised to forget all former offences, and to lay by all animosities, and that there should be a new Heaven and a new Earth, all meekness, charity, and condescension. The King sent over his Declaration of Liberty for tender consciences, and upon his coming over seconded it with his commission under the Broad Seal, for a conference between the two parties to prepare things for an Accommodation, in order to confirm it by his Royal Authority ; notwithstanding this happy conjuncture of the Kings Restoration, which had put all men into so good a humour, that upon a little moderation and temper of things the Nonconformists could not have stuck out, some of these men so contrived it, that there should not be the least abatement to bring them off with conscience, and (which insinuates into all men) some little Reputation : But on the contrary, several unnecessary additions were made, only because they knew they would be more ingrateful to the Nonconformists, and to shew that they were men like others, even cunning men, revengeful men, they drilled things on till they could procure a Law, wherein besides all the conformity that had been formerly Enacted, there might be some new conditions imposed on those that should have or hold any Church Livings, such as they assured themselves, that rather than swallow, the Nonconformists would disgorge all their Benefices, and accordingly it succeeded, several hundreds of Ministers being upon that memorable day, Aug. 24. 1652. outed of their subsistance ; and though they themselves rolled on in a flood of Wealth, and all that could be devised to make a Clergyman

‘ Clergyman good natur’d, yet the matter of cер-
‘ monies hath still exercised their ancient rigor and
‘ severity. And after the Ministers were thrown
‘ out of their Livings, divers severe Laws were
‘ made against their meeting in private Houses, to
‘ the ruin of many Families, and whensoever the
‘ King had urgent occasions for money, they made it
‘ their busines to trinkle with the Members of Par-
‘ liament for obstructing it, unless the King would
‘ buy it with a new Law against the Fanaticks. Thus
far he: I shall transcribe one passage more out of the
late Speech of an Honourable Peer, in a publick As-
sembly, to this purpose:

‘ Several Artifices were made use of at this time
‘ for the introducing Military Power and Popery, and
‘ one deceit by which the Nation was to be gulled
‘ into, it was by fomenting divisions among Prote-
‘ stants, and especially about the Terms of Commu-
‘ nion, making them so strict and narrow, as to ex-
‘ clude the greatest part of the Protestants in Eng-
‘ land, and nine parts in ten of the rest of the World,
‘ and that this was not to promote Gods Glory, and
‘ the Salvation of mens Souls, but to serve some new
‘ Design, appears, because the Laws against Dissen-
‘ ters were stretch’d and executed beyond their Ge-
‘ nune and Natural intent and construction, and se-
‘ veral of them put in Execution against them,
‘ which were plainly and directly made for other
‘ purposes, by which the Law it self suffered vio-
‘ lence; and besides, more diligence and care was
‘ employed to punish people for Nonconformity,
‘ than to reform their lives and manners. For if a
‘ man were never so openly wicked and debauched,
‘ and very seldom, if ever, saw the inside of a
‘ Church, yet if he could talk loud and swagger
‘ bravely for the Church, and storm against, and
‘ pull the Dissenters to pieces, he was cryed up by all
‘ means for a good Son of the Church, an honest
‘ man

man, and truly affected to the Government, whilst those who could not come up to all the ceremonies enjoined in the Rubrick, though their lives in all other respects were upright, and their conversations unblameable, yet were called Villains and Rogues, and Enemies to the Government, as if the outside, and ceremonious part of Religion, was to be more valued than the substance and essence of it: Like the Fellow in the Play, who out of his great zeal to the Church, treats the Dissenters with very scurrilous Language, saying, They were the Plague of the State, and that he hoped to see them all Hanged, and declares the mighty concern he hath for the Church; when being told, That he need not trouble himself so much about the Church since he himself never went to Church, he in great fury presently replies, with an horrid Oath, What though I do not go to Church, yet I am for the Church. I do not say this to dissuade any man from coming to the Church, for I go constantly thither my self, and I wish every body could do it as easily as I do, and I wonder it is otherwise, for I never yet heard any good reason for practising the contrary, yet I think unless a man be satisfied in that way of Worship, it is better to keep away than to come, for otherwise it is to mock and not to serve God. I could never yet meet with any Precept in all the Gospel, that doth justifie violent proceedings in matters of Religion; I was always of opinion, that it would never go well with England, till every man might worship God in his own way, for nothing can be more unreasonable than to expect that a man should believe otherwise than according to the conviction that is upon him, or that one mans opinion should be a Rule or Guide to another mans conscience: And I cannot see wherefore those should be terms of Communion that are not terms of Salvation.

But

But to proceed : The Parliament had under consideration the bringing of Sir Henry Vane, and M. G. Lambert to their Tryal, being excepted out of the Act of Oblivion, which ended in an Address to the King, ‘ That if they should be Tryed, yet not being actually concerned in the Regicide, their Lives might be saved ; which the King assented to, as Vane urged upon his Tryal, but upon some reasons of State he was not thought fit to live, and was Beheaded upon Tower-Hill. June 14 1662. Coll. Okey, Corbet, and Berkstead, three of the Kings Judges, being taken in Holland by the contrivance of Sir George Downing, were likewise Executed, April 19. May 21. Q. Katherine arrived at Portsmouth, and the King going thither to receive her, they were there Married by the Bishop of London.

At the latter end of this year 1662. the only discourse about the Kingdom was concerning a comprehension of the Presbyterians, and Toleration of others ; many endeavours had been used in Parliament, but not being able to carry it there, they applied themselves to the King and Council, and a Project for a comprehension was thereupon set on foot, of which I shall give an account from the Reverend Author of the life of that excellent Judge the Lord C. Baron Hale, who in his character of that worthy person, and pious christian, gives the following relation of this matter.

‘ The Lord Hale lamented the differences that were raised in this Church very much, and according to the impartiality of his Justice, he blamed some things on both sides, which I shall set down with the same freedom he spake them. He thought many of the Nonconformists had merited highly in the business of the Kings Restoration, and at least deserved that the terms of Conformity should not have been made stricter than they were before the War ; there was not then that dreadful prospect

, of

of Popery which has appeared since. But that which afflicted him most, was, That he saw the heats and contentions which followed, upon those different parties and interests, did take people off from the indispensable things of Religion, and slackened the Zeal of other wise good men for the substance of it, so much being spent about external and indifferent things. It also gave advantage to Atheists to treat the most sacred points of our Holy Faith as ridiculous, when they saw the professors of it contend so fiercely, and with such bitterness, about lesser matters : He was much offended at all those Books which were written to expose the contrary Sect to the scorn and contempt of the Age in a wanton and petulant stile : He thought such Writers wounded the Christian Religion through the sides of those who differ'd from them, while a sort of Lewd people, who having assumed to themselves the Title of the Wits (though but a very few of them have right to it) took up from both hands what they had said, to make one another shew ridiculous, and from thence persuaded the World to laugh at both, and at all Religion, for their sakes : And therefore he often wished that there might be some Law to make all scurrility in disputes, about Religion, punishable. But as he lamented the proceedings too rigorously against the Nonconformists, so he declared himself always of the side of the Church of England, and said, Those of the Separation were good men, but they had narrow Souls who would break the Peace of the Church about such inconsiderable matters as the points in difference were.

He scarce ever meddled in State Intrigues, yet upon a proposition set on foot by the Lord Keeper Bridgman, for a comprehension of the more moderate Dissenters, and a limited Indulgence toward such as could not be brought within the comprehension,

sion, he dispensed with his Maxim of avoiding to ingage in matters of State : There were several meetings upon that occasion. The Divines of the Church of England that appeared most considerably for it, was Dr. Wilkins, afterward promoted to the Bishoprick of Chester, a man of as great a mind, as true a Judgment, as eminent Virtues, and of as good a Soul, as any man I ever knew : He being determined as well by his excellent temper, as by his foresight and prudence, by which he early perceived the great prejudices that Religion received, and the vast dangers the Reformation was like to fall under by those Divisions, set about that project with the magnanimity that was indeed peculiar to himself, for though he was much censured by many of his own side, and seconded by few, yet he push'd it as far as he could. After several conferences with two of the eminentest of the Presbyterian Divines, Heads were agreed on, some abatements were to be made, and explanations were to be accepted of. The particulars of that project being thus concerted, they were brought to the Lord Chief Baron Hales, who put them in form of a Bill to be presented to the next Sessions of Parliament.

But two parties appeared vigorously against this design, the one was of some zealous Clergy-men, who thought it below the dignity of the Church to alter Laws, and change settlements for the sake of some whom they esteemed Schismaticks. They also believed it was better to keep them out of the Church than to bring them into it, since a Faction upon that would arise in the Church, which they thought might be more dangerous than the Schism it self was ; besides, they said, if some things were now to be changed in compliance with the humour of a party, as soon as that was done another party might demand other concessions, and there might be

be as good reasons invented for these as for those :
Many such concessions might likewise shake those
of our own communion, and tempt them to forsake
us, and go over to the Church of Rome, pretend-
ing that we changed so often that they were there-
by inclined to be of a Church that was constant
and true to her self. These were the reasons
brought, and chiefly insisted on, against all com-
prehension, and they wrought upon the greater
part of the House of Commons, so that they passed
a Vote against the receiving of any Bill for that
effect.

There were others that opposed it upon very
different ends : They designed to shelter the Papists
from the execution of the Law, and saw clearly
that nothing could bring in Popery so well as a
Toleration, but to have Tolerated Popery bare-
faced would have startled the Nation too much, so
it was necessary to hinder all the propositions for
Union, since the keeping up the differences was
the best colour they could find for getting the Tole-
ration to pass, only as a slackning the Laws against
Dissenters, whose numbers and wealth made it ad-
viseable to have some regard to them ; and under
this pretence Popery might have crept in more co-
vered and less regarded. So these Councils being
more acceptable to some concealed Papists then in
great power, as has since appeared but too evi-
dently, the whole project of comprehension was
let fall, and those that set it on foot were look'd up-
on with an ill eye, as secret favourers of the Dis-
senters, underminers of the Church, and every thing
else that jealousy and distaste could cast upon them.
But upon this occasion the Lord Hales contracted
a familiar friendship with Bishop Wilkins, and like-
wise with several other eminent Clergymen (of the
same temper) as Bishop Ward, Bishop Barlow,
Dr. Tillotson, and Dr. Stillingfleet, as he did during

the Wars with the Apostolical Primate of Ireland,
A. Bishop Usher. He also held great conversation
with Mr. Baxter, on whom he looked as a person
of great Devotion and Piety.

The latter end of this year 1662. a Proclamation was published to command all Officers in the late Army to depart twenty miles from London and the Suburbs, and not to return in eight months, and soon after to maintain the fire of contention between Protestants, a plot is pretended to be discovered against the life of the King, the D. of York, the D. of Albemarle, and M. G. Brown, &c. though it was believed that the last employed Hill, and Riggs, two Preachers, to get into company with some talking men, where they discoursed of Arms, and other preparations, and produced a model of a new Government, and a Council of six met to manage the affair; about twenty were concerned in the matter, and these were to perform wonders without men or money, in surprizing Deal castle in Kent, having made sure of Windsor castle before, and the time to begin the Insurrection was to be the last of October; for this, Dec. 11. George Philips, a Serjeant of the Trained Bands in London, Thomas Tongue a Distiller, and several others, were arraigned and condemned, they alledged they never acted in any thing of this kind, but that the two Evidences discoursed of such impossible matters, and that they were only guilty of hearing and not discovering it. The Witnesses did not deny but that they had spoke the most dangerous words, but seemed to intimate that they had a license or commission so to do. In short, it was thought fit to Execute several of them, and their Heads were set upon Poles next the Tower; but the Accusers did not long survive them, Hill dying of the French Disease, and Riggs being made Chaplain of a Ship, had his Head shot off with a cannon bullet.

In persuance of a late Treaty with the Crown of Portugal, several of the old Army were sent over to assist that King against the Spaniards, where they had good success, though not many of them returned home again, which was no great grief to those that sent them away. The D. of Ormond is sent over Lord Lieutenant to Ireland, and about the same time the Commissioners for settling Corporations ordered, That the Walls of Gloucester, Coventry, Northampton, Taunton, Leicester, and other places, which had Forts and Bulwarks, and maintained them against K. Charles I. throughout the War, should be demolished as examples to posterity. This year the strong Town of Dunkirk, which had been gained by Oliver Cromwel, and was kept ever since to the glory of the English Nation (though it seems it was not annexed by Act of Parliament to the Crown of England, of which the King now took the advantage) was sold to the French King for five hundred thousand pounds, to the great disgust of the Nation in general; and from hence we may date the beginning of that fatal Friendship and Endearment between the two Kings, which has since been of such dismal consequence to these Kingdoms, and has advanced K. Lewis to such an unmeasurable greatness, that he is now become the common plague and disturber of all Europe.

A splendid Ambassy came now from the Emperor of Russia, who brought presents proper to their country to the King and Queen, and were received with great respect, and afterward returned home with presents of greater value. Decemb. 23. Mr. Edmund Calamy, late Minister in Aldermanbury, being come to hear at his own Church, and the Parish being disappointed, he went into the Pulpit and preached a Sermon, for which heinous crime, against the late Act of Uniformity, he was committed to Newgate, to continue there three months without Bail or Main-

prize, but such a number of Nobility, Gentry, and other persons of Worth, coming to visit and relieve him there, the King thought it more adviseable to order his release, though some time before, his other Chaplain Mr. Baxter preaching before him at White-Hall, and offering to make a prayer after his Sermon, he suffered him in his presence to be pluck'd out of the Pulpit.

By the procurement of those about the King (who very well knew what Religion he was of beyond Sea, and what Monasteries he frequented, and how often he had been seen at the Popish Worship) the Parliament believing the repeated protestations that he had made them of his firmness to the Protestant Religion, which no temptations in his Exile could make him swerve from, and his readiness to consent to any thing for the propagation thereof, had passed an Act some time before, declaring, ' That if any person, during the Kings life, should affirm the King to be an Heretick or a Papist, or that he intended to introduce Popery, he shall be uncapable of enjoying any Office or Employment whatsoever, and be liable to such other punishments as may by Law be inflicted on him. Yet in the beginning of the year 1663. they began to be sensible of the growth of Popery, and the encouragement given thereto by a Declaration published by the King in Decemb. 1662. so that upon their meeting in February following, a petition was presented by both Houses, representing, ' That notwithstanding His Majesties unquestionable Zeal and Affection to the Protestant Religion, manifested by his constant profession and practice against all temptations whatsoever, yet by the great resort of Jesuits, and Romish Priests, into the Kingdom, the Subjects were generally much affected with Jealousie that the Popish Religion might much increase, and the Church and State thereby insensibly disturbed. In answer to which,

the King took notice of his Declaration of Dec. 26. but endeavoured to clear himself from any mistakes as favouring Popery ; and though he acknowledged the services he had received from many of that profession, yet he was so far from tolerating or qualifying them, thereby to hold any Office or place of Trust in the Government, that he desired Laws might be made to hinder the growth of their Doctrine : ' That his zeal to the Protestant Religion and Uniformity should not yield to the bishops themselves, and yet if the Dissenters would demean themselves peaceably and modestly under the Government he could heartily wish, He had such a power of Indulgence to use upon occasion, as might not needlessly force them out of the Kingdom, or staying here give them cause to conspire against the peace of it. In answer to the Kings thus explaining himself, the House of Commons gave him thanks, and by their Votes vindicated the present settlement of Religion, but would not hear of a Dispensing power : But to please them, and get a round Tax, the King published a Proclamation, commanding all Jesuits, and Irish, Scotch, and English Priests, to depart the Kingdom before May 14. upon pain of being prosecuted according to Law.

The beginning of June 1663. brought News of a conspiracy in Ireland, several of the Officers of the former Army, and purchasers of Irish Lands, having design'd, May 21. to have surprized Dublin castle, and seized the D. of Ormond the Lord Lieutenant ; to effect which, divers persons with petitions were to wait in the Castle, while about eighty Foot Soldiers, in the disguise of Handicrafts-men, attended without for an opportunity to seize the Guards. They alledged their design was to have secured the Lord Lieutenant and the Castle, till they had sent to the King, to inform him that the Commissioners about settling the Estates of the English in Ireland, had un-

justly deprived them of theirs, and therefore would have had a review and regulation thereof: Four or five of the principal were taken and executed for the same.

Soon after another Plot was said to be discovered in the North, and several persons were thereupon seized: It was discours'd the design was, The opposing the Duty of Excise, &c. To re-establish a Gospel Magistracy and Ministry, To restore the Long Parliament: And lastly, To curb the Gentry, Clergy and Lawyers. In order to which, they were to have seized upon Carlisle, with all the eminent persons and Justices of peace in Yorkshire, Westmoreland, and Durham, and what publick Treasure they could find, and Lambert, or Ludlow, were proposed to have headed them. Twenty one were condemned for being concerned therein, and several executed. Soon after James Turner, commonly called Collonel, a person of a most Vicious and Debauched life, and who had shewed monstrous Inhumanity to some of the Regicides at Charing-cross, was hanged in Leaden-Hall-Street for Felony and Burglary, in breaking up the House of his intimate Friend Mr. Samuel Tryon, binding him in his Bed, and Rifling and Robbing him of his Goods. Feb. 24. John Twin, a Printer, was executed in Smith-field, for printing a Book called *Mene Tekel*, wherein there was a general Call for a Rising against the King in these words, ' If there be any City, Town or County in the three Nations, that will begin this Righteous and Glorious Work, they may be assured of Success, &c. And a Printer, Bookseller, and Book-binder, were set in the Pillory for publishing books obnoxious to the Government.

In the beginning of the year 1663. the Lord Helliis was sent Ambassador to the French King, to signify to him the Kings intentions to preserve an amity and fair correspondence with him, upon confidence

of the like from his Christian Majesty. The French King replied briefly, ' That his Master might assure himself nothing should be wanting on his side to preserve an entire Friendship between them. In July came Intelligence that the City of Tangier, which was given to the King upon the match with Portugal, was vigorously assaulted by Gayland the General of the Moors, but they were repulsed with great loss. On the 27th of the same month, the King passed several Acts for Money and other matters, and then the Parliament was prorogued to March 16. following, and soon after the King made a progress Westward.

The Parliament of Scotland at this time condemned Archibald Johnston Laird Wariston, who was executed July 22. at the Market-cross at Edenburg ; they likewise constituted a National Synod or Assembly of the Church, it being the first that ever met in that Kingdom under Bishops, and passed an Act for raising an Army of 20000 Foot, and 2000 Horse, with forty days provision, to be in readiness to march to any of the Kings Dominions for suppressing any Forreign Invasion, or for any other service they should be commanded to perform, which the Court thought a great point gained to have a standing Army that would not dispute commands, and they endeavoured several times to have obtained the same in England.

In Italy the Pope and French King were this year like to be ingaged in a great Quarrel, the Pope being incensed against him for incroaching upon the Church, occasioned by the Popes delay of giving satisfaction for the injury offered to the Duke of Crequi by the Corsi ; upon which the French King possest himself of Avignon the Popes Town in France, who thereupon consulted with the Cardinals, whether to Excommunicate him or not : But King Lewis having sent some Troops into Italy, and more being ready

to advance, the Pope was forced to submit to whatever conditions his undutiful Son would impose upon him, which were hard enough. Namely, ' That the Cardinal Imperial should be confined to Genoa during the Kings pleasure: That Don Mario, the Popes Brother, should be banished to Siena for three years: That Cardinal Chigi, the Popes Nephew, should be sent into France to desire the French Kings pardon for himself and Family, and in the Name of the Pope supplicate the Christian Kings excuse for the affront given to the Duke of Crequi: And a pillar to be erected in the palace of the Corsi, with an Inscription bearing the substance of their condemnation. Thus we see how easily a Catholick Prince can dispence with his obedience to the Pope, when he has power and spirit to resist him, and that it is not the Law of Nature that the Pope should trample upon the Necks of Princes.

At this time the Portugals had great success against the Spaniards, with the assistance of the old English Souldiers, in taking the Town of Ginaldo in Gallicia, wherein was the Magazine of Spain, and afterwards giving Battel to Don John of Austria, who had an Army of 7000 Horse, 12000 Foot, and eighteen pieces of Cannon, they routed him in the open Field, and took all his Tents and Baggage, killing 1000, and took 4000 prisoners, most of them eminent Commanders. But a worse Fate had attended the Protestants of Piedmont, had they not stoutly defended themselves, for while their Députies were pleading for them at Turin, under the protection and safe conduct of the Duke of Savoy, their Sovereign Prince, protesting their Loyalty and Submission to him, his Forces being about 18000 Horse and Foot, entered the Valley of Perustine, St. Bartholomew, and other places, endeavouring to possess themselves of Angrogne, and St. Martins, two of the strongest Holds in all the Valley of Piedmont. In

their

their way they set all on fire, cut and tore down the Vines, and destroyed all : The Inhabitants seeing themselves undone contrary to Faith given, and that their utter ruin was designed, they betook themselves to Arms, and opposed these barbarous Incendiaries, the fight was hot for a time, but though the Savoyards were thirty to one, yet the Protestants obliged them at length to retreat with the loss of above 1000 men killed and wounded, and many Officers : All which was said to be done by the cursed Councils of the Jesuits, who are against keeping Faith with Hereticks.

The King notwithstanding the kindness shewed him by the States of Holland, was thought to have designed their destruction from the time of his Restoration, and in the year 1664. the Parliament after their prorogation being met, several complaints were made against the Dutch, pretending that they had offered divers affronts and injuries to our Nation ; and Mr. Clifford reported from a Committe of the Commons, ' That they had found that the Hollanders had made several incroachments upon Trade. This was aggravated to the Parliament in the most invidious manner that was possible, and had such influence upon them, who were not sensible of the secret Intrigues that were carrying on against the Protestant Interest, that they made these two Votes, ' Resolved, ' That the Wrongs, Dishonours, and Indignities, the Damages, Affronts and Injuries, done by the Subjects of the United Provinces to our Merchants, are the greatest obstructions to Forreign Trade. Resolved, That His Majesty shall be moved to take speedy and effectual course for the redress thereof, and that they will assist him with their Lives and Fortunes against all opposition whatsoever. Both Houses attended the King with these Resolutions, who in answer declared his high esteem of their care and tenderness for the Honour and good of the Nation,

telling them, " That he would examine and prove their particular complaints : That he would demand satisfaction by a publick Minister, and do his utmost endeavour to secure his Subjects from the like violences for the future, depending upon the promise of both Houses to stand by him. Soon after a Bill was passed to repeal the Act of Triennial Parliament, whereby their sitting was secured to be once in three years ; but now the King was left at liberty when he would call them, which was a great point gained upon the people.

And now Sir John Lawson was sent to repress the Insolencies of the Algerines, where he retook seventeen Merchants Ships, and about 300 men, with great store of Goods, and sent them home to their respective Owners, and finding that Nest of Pyrates disdain his proffered peace and accommodation, he declares open War against them, and soon after took one of their Ships of 34 Guns, and 260 men, which he sent to Majorca, selling part of the Slaves who were Turks and Moors to the Admiral of France. After this Lawson kept so vigilant an eye upon them, that either out of weakness or cowardice, they kept close in their Harbours, so that he could not take any, but only prevent them from doing mischief ; whereupon Lawson was sent for home, to be employed against the Dutch, and Captain Allen went in his room, who in a short time so distressed them, that they gladly accepted Terms of peace, with sufficient advantage to England, the Divan, or Council, laying the fault of the breach upon some few Self-interested persons.

The War with Holland being now resolved on since the Parliament gave such encouragement to it, a Memorandum was sent to the States in May 1664. of the damages the English Subjects had sustained from them and their speedy answer demanded ; but the Dutch not being in haste to enter into a War, resolved to send

send Ambassadors to the King to adjust all differences. May 17. the Parliament was prorogued till November following, the King having first Signed several Acts, and among others, a severe Act against Conventicles, whereby the Nonconformists were prosecuted with the utmost severity throughout the Nation, when not a Papist in the three Kingdoms, was in the least troubled or molested.

The King with the Supplies given him, had credit enough to borrow two hundred thousand pounds of the City of London, which money he employed in preparations against the Dutch, wherein he was very earnest, and by his own presence and travelling from place to place, did much incourage the equipping the Fleet, that he might be beforehand with them, though in the mean time they offered to make an accommodation upon very reasonable Terms, but peace was the least thing the Court of England consulted, not doubting but to destroy those Protestant States, which had been a refuge to the Distressed for many years, and were therefore much maligned both by the English and French King: Of which the States General were very sensible. But Sir George Downing being Envoy Extraordinary at the Hague, to remove their Jealousie of us, gave them, according to the policy of those times, all the assurances of Friendship, telling them, That if their East India Fleet (which the Dutch then expected) should meet with any of our men of War, they would notwithstanding, be as safe from receiving any damage by them, as if they were above London-bridge: Yet soon after their Bordeaux Fleet, with several others, to the number of about 135, were stopped as they came into our Channel upon frivolous pretences, till at last some months after, without Declaration of War, or any causes shewn, they were confiscated; and at the same time their Smyrna Fleet was fallen upon by Captain Allen before Cadiz, whereupon

Downing

Downing thought fit to make a hasty retreat to England by Mazeland Sluce ; and this Action was as little to our honour as profit, for though we sunk one or two of their Ships to their great damage, yet we took none ; and for those that were seized at home, our management was so commendable, that upon the Sale of them, it was affirmed, The King was made Debtor. And thus this War began, which prospered in our hands according to the Justice of it.

Nov. 24. 1664. The Parliament met again, and then the King in a Speech signified to them, how unkindly he had been Treated by his Neighbors, yet upon his own stock of credit he had set forth a Navy that would not decline meeting all the Naval power of the Enemy, and that he expected from them a speedy, real and substantial supply. Sir Edward Turner, Speaker of the Commons, declared, ' The deep sense the Parliament had of the injuries of the Dutch, and of the Kings Expences, assuring him of their constancy and readiness to yield him all obedience with their Bodies and Purses. And persuant thereto, they Voted a supply of Four and Twenty Hundred seventy seven Thousand and five Hundred pounds ; after which the King set out several Privateers, and in February following published a Declaration of War against the Dutch to this purpose, ' That his Subjects had received many injuries and damages from the Subjects of the United Provinces, for which he had made frequent complaint, but could receive no satisfaction, but on the contrary, Acts of Violence was committed upon his Subjects by De Ruyter in Africa : He did therefore declare the Dutch to be the Aggressors, empowering his Fleet to fight and destroy the Ships of the Netherlands. The plague had lately raged very much in Holland, (and from thence the next year came into England) so that they were not in so good a capacity to make a defence, yet by their indefatigable Industry they

they made the best preparation for a Navy they could, and in answer to the Kings Declaration, published a paper, intituled, ' An Extract of the Memorial of the States General of the United Provinces, upon the Memorial of Sir George Downing Envoy ; wherein they reflect very severely upon the King, and his conduct in this affair, and justify all their proceedings toward him. And afterward they emitted a second paper more sharp than the former. They likewise sent Ambassadors to the Neighbouring Princes for assistance, as to Sweden and Denmark, which went slowly on, and instead of being befriended by France, that Ambassador is ordered to demand satisfaction for two East India Ships taken from the French ; and other Princes seem to stand Neuter. Not long after Major Holms was committed to the Tower, but was soon discharged and restored to favour.

The King by his constant sedulity, as being mighty zealous in this affair, had got his Navy into great forwardnes, so that by March 25. 1665. the Fleet provided with all Necessaries was ready to receive the Duke of York their Admiral, who heartily ingaged in this Quarrel against these Heretical States. In August this year came news from Lausanna in Switzerland, That several Irish Papists having notice that some of the late Kings Judges were there under the protection of the Magistrates, namely, Coll. Goff, Whaley, Ludlow, and Lisle, they contrived how to seize them, but finding that impossible, they assaulted Lisle in the disguise of Lackeys, as he was going to Church, shooting him dead upon the spot, and in the consternation made their escape through the Guards, crying out long live the King of England, whither they at length arrived, and were rewarded as having performed a meritorious Act.

March 25. 1665. The Duke of York were aboard the English Fleet, but the Dutch were not ready to come

come forth with their Fleet, but laid an Embargo upon all English Ships, and prohibited all Trade and Commerce with England, and that none of their Subjects should ensure any Goods belonging to the Subjects of the K. of England. The French King in concert with ours, ordered a general Embargo upon all Holland Vessels, till they made satisfaction for the two East India Ships, but they soon complied with him, and for the present secured peace on that side. They then published the whole controversie between themselves and the King of England, in the Courts of all the Neighbouring Princes, and complained of some ill dealing in Guinea, which the King answered in a Relation of all Affairs in that Country. In the mean time some skirmishes and losses happened between the two Nations, we taking three small Capers after a stout resistance, and young Evertse, Son to the Dutch Admiral, was made prisoner, and afterward we took some Merchants Ships ; but the loss of our whole Hamburg Fleet, for want of a Convoy, made sufficient recompence to the Dutch. We likewise lost the Diamond Frigate, which was taken in Italy and carried into Villa Franca. Two Dutch East India Ships coming about Scotland, Stranded themselves upon the Isles of Orkney, and were secured. Admiral De Ruyter was sent with a Squadron of Ships to the West Indies, and attempted the Island of Barbadoes, but found the Lord Willoughby the Governour so well prepared to receive them, that he departed without doing any damage. The Duke impatient of the Hollanders stay, Sailed with the whole Fleet of 114 Sail to the Texel, and put the Hollanders into some consternation, but returned back without effecting any thing to Southwold Bay.

About the latter end of May the Dutch Navy appeared at Sea, divided into seven Squadrons, consisting of 103 Men of War, 11 Fireships, and seven Yatches,

Yatches, and June 3 both Fleets met, between whom there fell a most sharp and bloody encounter, wherein the Dutch received a great los, by the account the Chancellor gave to the Parliament the next Sessions, we losing only the Charity, formerly taken from them, but took eighteen Men of War from them, and sunk and fired ten more, besides four Fireships, Opdams Ship of 84 Guns blown up with himself and 500 men, and we took 2063 prisoners, whereof thirteen were Commanders. Some persons of Note were killed on our side, as the Earl of Falmouth, Lord Muskerry, and Mr. Boyl, who fell all three by one cannon shot so near the Duke, that he was besprinkled with their blood: Likewise the Earls of Portland, Marlborough, Rere-Admiral Sanson, and Vice-Admiral Lawson, which was occasioned by reason the whole burthen of the Fight lay upon only 30 of our Ships. This ill success caused some disorders in Holland, and to appease the people, the States Executed three of their Captains for Cowardice and ill management; two had their Swords broken over their Heads, and another stood upon a Scaffold with an Halter about his Neck.

But this advantage was somewhat allayed by the heat of the ensuing Sickness, which was first observed in May 1665 when nine only died, but it increased every month with such violence, that in September the Bill of Mortality swelled to 7165. in one Week of the plague, which was the highest it arrived to, and in the whole year 97306 died of all Diseases, whereof of the Plague 68596, which was about 79000 more than died the year before. Upon this account the Queen Mother returned to France, and the King and Court go to reside at Oxford, the Duke of Albemarle continuing to manage all Affairs at London. And now the Fleet being repaired from the late damages, July 5. about sixty Sail weighed from Southwold Bay to the Coast of Holland, under

the Earl of Sandwich, upon which the Dutch Admiral Bankert, who had been out about three Weeks, returned into Harbor, De Ruyter being expected to have come along with him, but his Voyage was longer, for having been disappointed at Barbadoes, he arrived at Newfoundland with 17 men War, where he took two of our Frigates, and five other Vessels, and all the Cattle from the Planters, and eight Guns from off the Land, but restored three Ships to bring home the Seamen, which were 120; with these and some other Prizes, he arrived soon after in Holland round about Scotland. In the mean time the English Fleet lay in three Squadrons on the Coast of Norway, and the Earl of Sandwich having notice that the Dutch East India Fleet, coming home by the North of Scotland, were put into Bergen in Norway, (upon the King of Denmarks security, or at least relying upon the League with him) he blocked them up in that Harbor, and sent in some Ships to seize them, and had had them delivered if the Carrier with Orders from Copenhagen to the Governor, had not come too late, Sandwich his Ships being beaten off and retired with loss before the Orders came, for our Agent in Denmark had agreed with that King concerning them, but Sandwich not having notice of the Treaty, the design was lost by falling on those Ships too soon. But a while after, he met with a Convoy of Dutch with several Merchants, and some East India men, of whom he took eight Men of War, two East India Ships, and twenty Sail of Merchant men.

Ost. 10. The Parliament by reason of the Plague at London, meet at the Schools in Oxford, where the King in his Speech tells them, ' That he entred upon the Dutch War by their Advice and Encouragement, but found it more chargeable than he could have imagined: That the addition the Dutch had made to their Fleets, would oblige us to make proportionable

portionable preparations : That as the Dutch by false suggestions, had endeavoured to make themselves Friends, so had he encouraged those Princes they had wronged to recover their own by Force, to which end he had assisted the Bishop of Münster with a considerable Sum of Money : And that the Supplies already given were never spent, however that he did not make War for Wars sake, but was ready to receive all fair propositions, but the Dutch were as ever, though they had no advantage as he knew of.

The Lord Chancellor inlarged upon this Speech, charging the Dutch with several affronts upon the Royal Family before the Kings Return, and that when the King was Restored there were not Arms for 5000 men, nor provisions for setting out ten Ships : That the King had replenished the Stores, and reduced the Expences of the Navy, whereby his Disbursements had been so extraordinary, that a considerable supply would be absolutely necessary. In answer to this, the Commons returned the King thanks for his care and conduct for the preservation of his people, and the Honour of the Nation, declaring again they would assist him with their Lives and Fortunes. They also returned thanks for his care of his Brother the Duke of York. Then they gave the King an Additional Supply of 1250000 l. by a monthly Assessment, and a months Tax in the Rere for the Duke of York, though it was then discours'd that our success had been greater if the Duke had not commanded a Ceſtation for some hours while he took a little repose, which gave opportunity to the Dutch to get home to their own Coasts. And to conclude all, an Act was passed against Nonconformist Ministers, forbidding them to reside within five miles of any City, Town or Corporation, under a great penalty.

The States General not finding any hope of accommodation, recalled their Ambassador Van Gotch out of

of England, who took his leave of the King at Oxford ; by him the King sends a Letter to the States, wherein though he tells them, That though he could not but charge them as Authors of the War, yet he signified to them his readiness to come to any fair Terms, but it seems they understood what he meant by it, and therefore returned him no answer. In the mean time the Bishop of Munster, being the Kings Confederate, advanced into Frizeland, burning and spoiling some, and taking other Towns. The French King, and the Dukes of Lunenburg, pretended to assist the Dutch, but their Forces were so rude and barbarous, that they did them more damage than service : And soon after, the French King imagining that our strength was too great at Sea, pretends to declare War against England, but with a design to do his utmost that these two Protestant Nations might destroy one another, while he stood by and took all advantages by their unhappy divisions, for at the same time he acquaints the Q. Mother of England, That although he could no longer keep off a Declaration of War against His Majesty of Great Britain, yet he should always preserve the same esteem and value for His Majesties person, hoping His Majesty would continue the same kindness and affection for him. And therefore he pretended this breach was only for succouring the States General in persuance of the Treaty made with them in 1662. King Charles in return, published a Declaration in February following against France, importing, ' That whereas the French King pretending an Alliance Defensive with the States General, had proclaimed a War against his Subjects, That he was resolved to prosecute the War which the French King had so unjustly undertaken against him, with his utmost force, by Sea and Land. But notwithstanding these Bravadoes, I do not find any great damage was done on either side.

The Parliament in Scotland, to keep an Harmony with ours, issued out a Proclamation, commanding all Ministers, who had been deposed or ejected, not to reside within twenty miles of their Parishes, nor within six miles of Edenburg, or any Cathedral, upon penalty of being prosecuted as movers of Sedition. In Ireland the Parliament fell upon the examination of certain of their Members, that were said to have been in the Plot in 1663. seven of whom were called to the Bar, and for that reason expelled the House, and made incapable of ever sitting in any Parliament of that Kingdom.

The beginning of the year 1666. we had intelligence from America that the Governor of Jamaica, by the assistance of the Buccaneers or Hunters, had expelled the Dutch out of all their Plantations in the West Indies, except one small Fort. At home the States General endeavour to strengthen themselves with Alliances, and therefore made Peace with the Danes, both parties renouncing all former pretences and differences, whereby that Kingdom gained of the Dutch sixty Tun of Gold, and they were to pay to the King of Denmark fifteen Tun of Gold, so long as the War with England lasted, who was to maintain thirty men of War in the Sound.

About the latter end of May this year, our Fleet was ready, under the conduct of Prince Rupert, and the D. of Albemarle, but for some reasons it was thought fit to be divided ; Prince Rupert with the White Squadron sailing toward the Coast of France, upon an apprehension of Beufort the French Admirals joining with the Dutch, and the other two Squadrions being four Leagues off the North Foreland, they discovered the whole Dutch Fleet, being about Ninety Capital Ships. The Fight began June 1. and was maintained for two days together, with fifty Ships of the English against double the number of the Dutch. The Duke had all his Tackle taken off, and his

his Breeches to his Skin, by a Chain-shot. This first days dispute continued from One a Clock till Nine at Night. Next day the Fight was renewed with greater violence, wherein the Hollanders were reinforced with sixteen fresh Ships, so that the next morning, being Sunday, the General finding the Fleet over-powered, retreated to the English Coast, three of our Ships being, by the Generals order, set on fire to prevent their falling into the Enemies hands. Toward Evening of that day, P. Rupert appeared, upon whose approach the Hollanders leaving fifty Sail to employ General Monk, sent out thirty more to intercept the Prince, who avoiding him joined with the General. On Monday morning they began another Encounter, which was very sharp, and the English having passed the whole body of the Dutch Fleet five times, they began to give way, and retired toward their own Coast. The English lost the Prince, which was burnt, having run ashore upon the Galloper, whereby Sir George Ayscue was taken prisoner. The Essex and the Swiftsure were also taken, but all the rest came into the Gun-fleet. We were told the loss of the Dutch was much more considerable, yet both sides made Bonfires and Rejoicings in sign of Victory. But the King being sensible that he had suffered very much in his Reputation by this Battel, and doubting the Dutch would be soon at Sea again, employs all his diligence and credit in repairing the damages of the Navy, borrowing 100000*l.* of the City to that purpose: However, the Hollanders having several Ships already fitted, designed to assist the Dane in the Sound, got out sometime before the English could possibly be ready, and were several times discovered toward the Coast of France to meet with Beufort, who pretended to join them, but never did, nor it is thought ever intended, it being only a French Trick to amuse them.

July 25. happened another Ingagement with the Dutch,

Dutch, which continued two days with much resolution on both sides, till at length the Hollanders having lost several of their Ships, and we were told had 4000 men killed, and near 3000 wounded, got into the Wielings, being pursued by our Fleet as far as they could safely. On the English side were only three Captains slain, the Resolution burnt, and not above 300 men wounded, besides what were slain, of which we had no account. The Dutch lost several Commanders, as Evertson Admiral of Zealand, the Admiral and Vice-Admiral of Frizeland, and the Rere-Admiral Van Saen. After which Sir Robert Holms, with five Fireships and other small Vessels, sailed into the Ulie, and burnt two men of War that were there to defend a great Fleet of Merchants Ships which lay within, and then with their Boats burnt above 160 Sail of them. But notwithstanding all these Disasters, the Hollanders were at Sea again by the latter end of August, passing by the back side of the Goodwin, to join with Beufort then at Rochel with forty Sail, but were followed so close by our Fleet, that they secured them selves in Bullon Bay ; but six or seven French Ships being scattered from the Fleer, Monsieur La Roche in the Ruby was taken by Sir Thomas Allen, burthen 1000 Tuns, fifty brass Guns and four Iron.

But while we were contending with Fire and Sword against our Protestant Neighbors, a dreadful fire happened in London, Sept. 2. which beginning about London-bridge, in three days time burnt down 13200 Houses, 89 Parish Churches, the stately Cathedral of St. Paul, the Royal Exchange, the great Guild-Hall, many magnificent Halls of Companies, several principal City Gates, and other publick Edifices, which was accompanied with the loss of vast quantities of rich Household-stuff, and Goods of all sorts, but especially of three or four kinds of Commodities, that is Books, of which alone were lost near

the value of 150000*l.* Tobacco, Sugar, Wines and Plumbs, being heavy Goods, so that the whole loss is computed to be Nine Millions and Nine Thousand pounds, and yet by Gods providence not above seven or eight persons were burnt in this vast Incendy.

This dreadful fire was contrived and carried on by the Papists, for which we have the Authority of the late Lord Chancellor Finch, in his Speech at the condemnation of the Lord Stafford, who was beheaded for being ingaged in the Popish Plot: His words are these, ‘ Does any man now begin to doubt how London came to be burnt? And is it not apparent by these instances, that such is the fantastick Zeal of some Bigotted Papists, that they resolve no means (to advance the Catholick Cause) shall be left unattempted, though it be by Fire and Sword.

For our trading Towns being look'd upon with an evil eye by the Papists, but especially London, the great Bulwark of the Nation and Protestant Religion, they for several years had been designing to burn the Houses, because they could not the Hereticks that dwelt in them; of which we had an account upon the discovery of the Popish Plot to this effect, ‘ That in February 1664--5. Strange the Provincial, with Gray, Pennington, and Barton, all Jesuits, and some others, as Keimash a Dominican Frier, &c. pretending to be Fifth Monarchy men, got acquainted with Green one of that stamp, who being poor they lent him 30*l.* ingaging him in their design of firing London, but not having yet assistance enough, and the Plague coming on apace, they adjourned it till January 1665--6. When they met again and renewed it, Green having brought in eight more of his own humour, the Jesuits would have been putting it in practice immediately, but were persuaded by Green to defer it, because but few of the Inhabitants being returned, they might the sooner

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be discovered. But while they thus deferr'd it, Green and his Companions were Discovered, Tryed, and Executed, only Green died in Prison, but the Jesuits whipt over to St. Omers, and were not so much as mentioned by these men at their Tryal or Death, and indeed could not, for these weak headed men never suspected them to be Jesuits, but really of their own party. Being therefore encouraged by this, they return to England again to carry on the same design, in the advancing of which their Brethren that still remained here had not been idle, but had several consults about it in their absence; and this advantage they had got by the Execution of these pretended Fifth Monarchy men, That when they should set fire to the City, it would be laid at the Dissenters doors, to which purpose these Jesuits Named, Sept. 3, to them, (being the next day save one, which themselves had so long pitch'd upon for the burning of London) as being found by Lilly's Almanack, as they construed it, to be a lucky day, as it is published in the Gazette April 30. 1666. that so that circumstance might be divulged as part of the Fifth Monarchy plot, and consequently being remembred by the people, when they saw the City on fire, they might thence think them to be the Incendiaries. They had also given them a List of the Names of the most eminent Dissenters, and of such as had been Officers in the Parliaments service, that so they might be secured as concerned in this Plot; which had been done, saith Bedloe in his Narrative, had it not been for the Duke of Albemarle.

Sept. 2. The Papists began that terrible fire which past Ages cannot parallel, and the present will never forget, and so encouraged and maintained it by the means of above eighty persons, whom they employed to carry it on with Fire-balls, that in less than four days time it consumed the greatest part of this glorious City. Four persons that were taken,

two in the very act of Firing, the third with Fire-balls in his Pocket, and the fourth upon a violent suspicion, were rescued by the Guards: Three, whereof two were Frenchmen, the third a Priest, being taken in the Act also, were rescued by a very great person. A Woman that said she knew where twenty persons were hired to throw Fire-balls, was delivered to Sir John Robinson, and never heard of more. Another Woman that confess'd she had a hand in the fire, was taken into Custody but never prosecuted. A Maid taken with Fire-balls in her Lap, said, She had them from the Guards, upon which she was Indicted, and the Bill found, but yet not prosecuted. A man that was accused by three Witnesses, (one of which was his own Son) for setting fire to his House at Soho, was brought in Not Guilty, the Jury being over-awed by the then Lord Chief Justice: Only one man, Hubbard, was executed for this Villany, who at his death acknowledged he began the fire, together with one Priedloe a Frenchman, who came over on that design with 33 other Frenchmen. Depositions of these, and several other remarkable particulars, were taken before a Committee of the House of Commons, and several Letters that came from beyond Sea were produced, the contents of which were to inquire whether London were burnt, though they bore date some days before the fire began, because there had been much discourse among the Jesuits beyond Sea that it would be done, and several words that the Papists cast out here about it were proved. The Benedictine Monks had an hand in it, as they boasted to Mr. Bedloe when he was in their Convent at Paris, where they shew'd him several Letters concerning it; but the Jesuits, as they were the chiefest Agents, so they got the greatest booty, no less than fourteen thousand pounds, by plundering the miserable Inhabitants, which they stored up in two Warehouses, the one at Wild-house, and the other at

Somerset-house : But though Divine Providence strangely preserved the remaining part of the City, so that when the fire was most Triumphant, and threatned an Universal Desolation, it was unexpectedly check'd and conquer'd, yet the malice of the Papists was not extinguish'd, but their success in this dreadful Conflagration inflamed and made them more eager to prosecute the like designs, and particularly in 1675; of which hereafter. I have been the more prolix herein, because the Papists and their Adherents have the confidence to deny that there was any ill practice in this matter, but affirm this terrible fire happened only by accident and chance, though we find the clearest evidence to the contrary.

After this distraction in the City, the Parliament met at Westminster, and the King required more Money for carrying on the War : In answer to which, the Loyal House of Commons, as they were called, wherein the Court party had the Majority, Voted a supply of 180000 £. by the Poll, and other ways, and that being not thought sufficient, they passed an Act the same Session for above 125000 £. more for the same reasons, and upon the same occasion as the former. And now the Papists grew very bold and insolent, as being sensible of the secret Intrigues of the Court in carrying on Poverty and Slavery, so that the Parliament took notice of it, and of the great numbers of Priests and Jesuits about London, and both Houses presented an Address to the King to take care in it. He to please them, published a Proclamation for their departure out of the Kingdom, but they knew his mind too well to regard it, continuing still here under pretence of belonging to the Queens Chappel, or some other pretexts, so that we do not find one of them were prosecuted, though at the same time the utmost severity of the Law was executed upon Protestant Dissenters.

The King now declares War against Denmark, al-
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ledging that he had been provoked thereto by the many Aspersions, Indignities, and breach of Faith, offered him by that King, but the great occasion was known to be, His entering into a League Offensive and Defensive, with the Heretical States of Holland.

In Scotland a disturbance happened at Dumfrize, where about two hundred assembled with Clubs and Staves, and took Sir James Turner out of his Bed, carrying him Naked into the Market-place, threatening him with death for his severity in exacting Fines upon the Nonconformists, and in a short time their number increased to 1600, who marched toward Edenburg, but being within four miles of it, they were set upon by Lt. coll. Dvel, and having no Fire-Arms nor Swords, 500 of them were slain upon the place, and the rest totally defeated and dispersed.

Notwithstanding the vast Sums that had been given for maintaining the War, and under pretence of fitting out a considerable Fleet the next Spring 1667, yet it was the wisdom and honesty of our Counsellors, out of good Husbandry to save the Money, to contrive not to set out any this Summer, which occasioned the greatest dishonour that ever happened to the Nation, by giving opportunity to the Dutch to come into our very Harbors and burn our Men of War; for notwithstanding all the great boasts we had made of being Victorious, yet the Court doubt ing the Parliament would at length grow weary of giving Money when they found so much of it mispent, they were willing to comply with the Mediation which the K. of Sweden had last year offered and Breda was appointed for the place of Treaty, and the Lord Hollis, and Mr. Henry Coventrey, were appointed to Negotiate that Affair: However, the preparations of the Dutch, for setting out their Fleet were carried on with all imaginable diligence, which the King of England saw (saith the Conde Historian) but resolving they should waste the

Summer in a fruitless Expence, stood only upon his Guard. So that by this refined piece of policy he left his Enemies Masters of the Seas, of which we soon saw the dismal effects, for about June the Hollanders appeared at Sea, with a considerable Fleet of about seventy Sail, and finding no Enemy to resist them, they kept plying upon the English Coast for many Weeks together, and at length resolved to make an attempt upon us even in the very River of Thames, and with twenty two Men of War they assaulted the Fort of Sherness, which was soon batter'd down by their Cannon, and quitted by Sir Edward Spragg, and sailing up the River of Chatham broke the Chain that was laid cross it, and instantly clap'd a Fireship upon the Matthias and Unity, which lay as a Guard to the Chain, and then upon Charles the First, and the same day possessed themselves of the Royal Charles, which was twice set on fire by the English, and as often quenched by the Dutch. After this, by the advantage of Wind and Tide, they advanced with six Men of War, and five Fireships, as high as Upnor Castle, where they received some damage from the Castle and the Shore, yet before they retired they burnt the Royal Oak, and much injured the Loyal London, and Great James, which had been sunk before, and lay partly under water. In their return, two of their own Men of War ran aground, so that they could not carry them off, but were fired to prevent them falling into the hands of the English. After which they returned home, carrying away the Royal Charles with them in Triumph. For this attempt an horrid outcry of Treachery was made against the Dutch, in doing it in the time of a Treaty with them at Breda, falsely adding, That it was contrary to a Cessation agreed upon, whereas when a Cessation was desired by us, they positively denied it, which is sufficient to vindicate the Integrity of their proceedings, in answer to ignorant popular clamour.

clamors. And indeed, though our Counsellors might be willing, for their defence, to have the people understand this disgracful affront to proceed from falsehood in the Dutch, yet they never at any time publickly accused them of breach of Faith in this matter or action. Being thus worsted, it was pretended that want of Money was the cause, though upon examination of the accounts, by the Commissioners appointed by Act of Parliament to that end, there was not much above half spent of what was given expressly for that War, which evinces our miscarriage to proceed from corrupt Counsels, want of Conduct, and not Money.

After this the Dutch ranged upon our Coasts without control. Landing at several places, even in the mouth of the Thames: At Harwich, assaulting Languard Fort with 2000 men: Then at Hull Haven, and in the Hope: After that at Wenbury in Devonshire, and Cowland and Foy in Cornwal. But June 21. The Articles of Peace between the English, Dutch, French and Danes, were Signed by the Plenipotentiaries, in a Castle belonging to the Prince of Orange at Breda, and afterward proclaimed in their respective Dominions. Peace being thus concluded, there was great murmuring among the people that the publick Treasure was wasted and mispent, the King therefore to please the Parliament, issued out a Commission to such Members as he thought fit, of both Houses, to take an account of such sums of Money as had been raised and assigned to him during the present War, which amounted to 2477500 £. granted at several times by divers Acts, with full power to call to account all Treasurers, Pay-masters, Receivers, and all other Agents and persons whatsoever.

During the interval of Parliament, the King to carry on his own designs, though under pretence of securing the Nation against Invasion, had raised an Arm

Army of about 30000 Horse and Foot, and it was then discouis'd that Father Patrick a Jesuit, and said to be the Duke of Yorks Confessor, had the Nomination, or at least the Approbation of all the Officers that commanded it. This Army Incamped at Black-Heath, and the people thought it was intended to awe the City of London and the Parliament, who began to be both discontented at the present management of Affairs. The Parliament stood prorogued from Feb. 8. this year, to Oct. 10. following, but upon some Intrigues of the Court they were now ordered to meet the 25th July, which they did accordingly, and immedately the House of Commons took into consideration the Army at Black-Heath, and Voted it illegal and a grievance, that any standing Army should be raised or kept up, without Authority of Parliament. Upon which, the Court finding they could not carry on their businels, the Parliament were the next day prorogued to Oct. 10. following, and soon after, the King not having Money to continue his Army, nor hope of any from his people, disbanded them again, so that one Vote of Parliament defeated this Black-Heath Army, according to the Poet :

‘ They breath’d but once, but ’twas with such a force
‘ They routed thirty thousand Foot and Horse.

‘ In October the Parliament met, and the King told them, ‘ That one reason of their last prorogation was
‘ to give himself time to do some things in the mean
‘ time which he hoped would not be unwelcome to
‘ them. The Lord Keeper added, ‘ That the King
‘ had left them to call all persons to account about
‘ receiving the Money for the War, to themselves,
‘ to follow their own method; adding withal, That
‘ if any grievances had happened, the King was as
‘ willing to have them redressed as they to represent
‘ them. The Parliament returned him thanks for

what he had done, and particularly, That he had disbanded the new raised Forces: That he had dismiss the Papists from his Guards, and other Military Employments: And lastly, For displacing the Lord Chancellor Hyde, which he had lately done to still the murmurs of the people, and made Sir Orlando Bridgeman Lord Keeper. After this they passed an Act for taking an Account of the several Sums of Money therein mentioned, and an Act for banishing and disenabling the Earl of Clarendon; and then they were prorogued from December to February 1667. following, and because such notorious abuses had been put upon Seamen and Soldiers, who were frequently constrained to give Money, or lose some part of their Wages to recover the rest, the D. of York, and some other Lords, were appointed to examine the matter, but it was said the poor men found small redress thereby.

Soon after, to keep the Parliament in good humor, a Proclamation was published, ' That the King having notice of the great concourse of very many persons of the Romish Religion to the Chappels of St. James's and Somerset-House, ordered all persons that were his Subjects (not being of the Families of the Queen, or Queen Mother, or of Forreign Ambassadors, that should repair to hear Mass) to be prosecuted according to Law.

The Parliament being again Assembled in February, the King told them, That he had made a League Defensive with the States General of the United Provinces, and another for an Efficacious Mediation of Peace between France and Spain, into which Sweden had offer'd to enter: He then puts them in mind of his vast expences past, and to come, by building Ships, and setting out another Navy, and desired a speedy assistance of Money. At the end of this Session, not without soime difficulty, the Parliament gave the King 31000 £. by way of Imposition, upon Wines and other

other Liquors, and thea were adjourned till Aug. 1658.

In this year 1667. the French King alarm'd the Princes of Europe with his pretensions upon the Spanish Netherlands in the Right of his Queen, which the Queen of Spain (who was Regent, King Philip IV. being lately dead) was willing to have composed by a Treaty, but this Ambitious Tyrant knowing the Government was in the hands of a Woman and a Child, resolved to take his advantage, and with a powerful Army falls into the Spanish Netherlands, taking the Towns of Tournay, Doway, Winexbergen, Courtray, Oudenard and Lisle, and almost wholly reduced those parts to his obedience; defeating also a great part of the Spanish Army under Count Marcius, killing 2000 upon the place, and persuing the rest to the very Walls of Damin. Toward the latter end of this year he fell into Franche Comte, and by the end of February compleated the conquest of that whole Country.

The year 1668. produced little of Domestick transactions, for the Court finding that the Parliament, instead of giving Millions, began to be better Husbands, and required a strict account of what was passed, they resolved to take other courses, and therefore, upon several pretences, the Parliament by divers Prorogations were not permitted to sit from May 1668. till October 1669 being above seventeen months. The French King having added the County of Burgundy this year to his other conquests, thought it convenient to hearken to the Mediation then offered by the King of England, and the States of Holland, so that a Treaty was concluded on, and Aix Le Chapelle was the place appointed for it, and a suspension of Arms agreed unto, and May 2. Articles for a General Peace were signed, and proclaimed through all the chief places of Spain, Flanders and France.

In 1659. The Queen Mother of England dyed; a severe Proclamation was published for putting the Laws in execution against Protestant Dissenters: The Lord Roberts is made Lord Deputy of Ireland, in the room of the Duke of Ormond. Octob. 19. the Parliament met, where the King puts them in mind of the charge he had been at, and desires them to take his debts into consideration, but finding they now began to consider of the State of the Nation, and the many disorders that had been committed in this long Interval, the King, after they had sat a month, prorogued them again to February. Jan. 24. the D. of Albemarle died, and eighteen days after his Dutchess, at the Cock-pit at White-Hall.

Though by the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, it was thought a general repose would have followed Europe, yet the French King (who made Treaties of Peace only with design to break them, though sworn to maintain them under the most sacred and solemn Obligations) now makes new demands of dependancies in Flanders, whereby he had taken from the Spaniard a great part of the Netherlands, which had always been considered as the Natural Frontier of England; upon which, the King either prompted by his own fears, or to oblige the Parliament and get Money of them, or lastly, to be revenged on the Dutch for what was our own fault, he invited them and the Crown of Sweden, to a League with us against France, wherein the Dutch were real, when our design was only to render them odious to the French King, and ingrage him against them, that by our then joining with France, we might, both together, destroy the Hollanders, and in them the Protestant chief Bulwark. In order to this, Sir William Temple (a Worthy and Ingenious Gentleman, who was hearty for the Protestant Interest) being then Resident at Brussels, was ordered by the King to go to the Hague (where he was very acceptable to the States General)

to propose a nearer Alliance with them, which they willingly complied with, so that within five days two several Treaties were concluded between the King and the States, the one a defensive and strick League than before between the two Nations, and the other a joint and reciprocal Engagement to oppose the conquest of Flanders, and to procure either by Treaty or Arms, a speedy Peace between France and Spain, upon the terms there resolved upon, and because Sweden came into the Treaty soon after, it was called the triple League; in persuance of which, the Treaty of Aix le Chapelle was also forced upon the French, and in some measure upon the Spaniards, who were unwilling to surrender so great a part of their Country to this Faith-breaker by a solemn Treaty.

The Court of England boasted extreamly of the excellent conduct of the King in this Treaty, and in a book called, A free conference of the present state of England, published by Authority, they extol the tender care he took of his Subjects, in point of honour, safety, freedom, union and commerce, which nothing could more advance than the conclusion of this Treaty with the States of the United Provinces, which without flattery might be demonstrated to men of understanding, to aim at nothing but the good of his Subjects in general, exempt from all manner of private Interest whatsoever, and whom nothing can ever alienate from the true Interest of his Realms, nor no corrupt Counsellors (let him be thought to be never so powerful or crafty, in order to his own advantages) prevent the Wisdom and the Integrity of such a Prince from prevailing above all the Artifices and Frauds of those who would persuade the Nation (were they competent Masters of their Art enough so to do) that those Counsellors who are not Interested can be less prudent or successful, than such as did make it their business to appro-

propriate all to themselves and nothing to their Master. The French King is much commended for his parts and activity, but let us see him outdo the King of England in this particular of the Treaty, both in courage and conduct, and then we may be apt to attribute his Grandeur as much to Natural Abilities as extraordinary Fortune, but not before.

By such Arts and good Words as these, they endeavoured to amuse the people, and the Parliament, from whom they got a sum of Money upon that account, but it was soon perceived that nothing real was intended hereby, for the French King being thus stopped in his career by the Triple League, and the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, though for a while he dissembled his dissatisfaction, yet resolved to break it whatever it cost him, using all manner of means and ways to compass his design; to which purpose, in 1670. the Duchess of Orleans was privately influenced by that King (as the French Memorials relate the matter) ' To pretend to ask leave to make a step over into England to visit her Royal Brothers, which with some seeming reluctance being consented to, she accordingly went, being furnished with such proposals which they who sent her well knew none could with equal safety and privacy advance, nor with greater power and influence recommend, and to prevent suspicion, they limited her return to so short a time that it might appear a pure visit, since it could not be thought that any State Intrigues of consequence could be managed in so little a space. She arrived at Dover, May 16. 1670. and the King and Duke of York went thither to visit her, where after the first congratulations were passed, the Princes told them, That it was the sense both of His Most Christian Majesty and her Self, that the only way to establish the Throne to His Majesty and the present Royal Family of England, to which they were lately restored, after so dismal an overthrow

‘ of the Monarchy in the Reign and Person of their
‘ Unhappy Father ; and to reinstate the Majesty of
‘ the Brittish Kings in its former splendor and securi-
‘ ty, enjoyed so long and gloriouſly in Catholick
‘ times, was by all wise and politick means to labour
‘ to introduce into these Kingdoms the Catholick
‘ Religion, for that the Church of England had, by
‘ woful experience, been found too weak alone to
‘ defend the Crown, and that the Dissenters were so
‘ fitly principled for a Common-wealth, that they
‘ wou’d never leave till they had overturned the Mo-
‘ narchy, unless His Majesty would timely provide
‘ for his security by the methods to be proposed to
‘ him by her, and the *Most Christian King*, who she
‘ knew had the utmost tenderneſs for his Interest, as
‘ was clear enough by all expressions of his real incli-
‘ nations, since they were set free from under the
‘ Tutelage of a Cardinal : The chief of which Expe-
‘ dients were flattering the Church of England, and
‘ first persecuting the Dissenters by Act of Parliament,
‘ and then wheedling them again with a Proroga-
‘ tive Lenitive, and so by the acceptance of Liberty
‘ on the one hand, and the no less assured Passive
‘ Obedience and Non-resistance of the other, the
‘ people might be alarmed, and the watchful Dragon
‘ laid asleep, which had been lately so busie in aſſe-
‘ ring pretended Liberties, and advancing the Sov-
‘ reignty of the old hateful Laws, while the Crown
‘ might securely and unregardlesly ſeize and appro-
‘ priate to it ſelf that important Jewel of *Dispensing*
‘ *Power*, which would fix the whole Chappleſet of
‘ unbounded Sovereignty, and make thoſe very mea-
‘ ſons who ſeemed moſt jealous of Absolute and Unlimi-
‘ ted power, the Tools for erecting the ſame.

Thus far as to the measures to be obſerved at home, and thoſe which ſhe and their Brother of France ad-
vised to be uſed abroad, were, ‘ First, To endeav-
‘ our by all poſſible means the Subverſion of the
‘ Common-

Common-wealth of Holland, the perpetual source of Rebellion in England; and in order to the more effectual Reduction of his own people, and of that untoward Neighbouring Nest and Receptacle of Rebels and Plotters, to resolve upon a firm and inviolable adherence to the Interest of the most Christian King, who in that case would no way defer him, but vigorously and powerfully Aid him, and carry him through all difficulties: But in case His Majesty could not satisfie his conscience to attempt a change of Religion, by reason of the difficulty and unpracticableness of such an Enterprize, yet however, as a Protestant of the Church of England, which was firm to Monarchy, it would be absolutely necessary for him in defence of both, as also of his Successors, to concur with His Christian Majesty in subduing the Republick of Holland, after which the Common-wealth Faction in England, and her two Sister Kingdoms, would soon dwindle away, and so the King would not only become absolute Master of his people, but both Princes might share the Naval power, and the Trade of Great Britain would receive an incredible augmentation by the destruction of a State that was her only Competitor at Sea, both for commerce and riches, because hereby the best Sea Towns and Provinces would all intirely be His Majesties; and likewise that the most Wealthy Merchants, and industrious Tradesmen, even of those Provinces, that shall fall to the share of the Most Christian King, would in all likelihood Transplant themselves either into England or Ireland, as lying more convenient for Trade than their own Country, or at least into those parts of Holland which should be under the power of the King of Great Britain, under whose Government they would rather chuse to submit their persons and fortunes, as being nearest to the freedom and sweetness of that they now are under, than to

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the more absolute Sovereignty of the French Monarch, for which they had entertained a thousand prejudices. She concluded with earnest and affectionate persuasions to the King, seriously to consider of these things, and return a speedy answer, that so she might be the Messenger of such good News as might prove the foundation of the lasting happiness of both the Royal and Illustrious Families.

This discourse, and the person together, made sensible impressions upon the two Brothers, so that for some time they seemed in an exasie, but after some pause, the King recollecting his spirits, told her, by way of reply, ' That he did not doubt of the reality of the affection of his Sister in the things she had represented to him, who had always express so much tenderness for his Interest, and that he doubted not but she had penetrated as far into the interiors of the King of France as it was possible any one should into the heart of a King, and therefore from her representation, he gave the more credit to the favourable conjectures he had made of his temper, during the little time he had the honour to converse with him while in Exile, and to the general character he had, since his personal administration of affairs, attainted in the World, of being a Prince of great honour and generosity, and therefore passed by some former unkind and unhandsome Treatments in his Court, as pure effects of the then Regiment of Cardinal Mazarine, and not of that Prince's own inclination, and accordingly desired her to return him his Royal and hearty thanks for his obliging expressions of amity and affection, and to assure him he should ever have his friendship in high esteem, and would go as great lengths, as in interest and prudence he could, to comply with his desires: But that the matters proposed being of highest consequence, he must desire

desire more time to give a satisfactory and positive answer than her stay in England would permit ; in the mean time, he would request his Most Christian Brother to believe, he was as sincerely affectioned to his person and interest as he could be to his own, and should ever continue to be, as far as a King of England could be, his constant and most obsequious Friend.

The like complement was returned by the Duke of York : After which the Princess renewing the charge upon them both, in the business of Religion, the King told her, ' That thou h he had entertained very kind and favourable thoughts of the Roman Religion and its Professors, for several Reasons which he instanced, and did believe that if it were re-established in his Dominions, the Monarchy would be safer and easier than it could be under the present state of Protestantcy, yet he was not so well satisfied to make it his own Religion : And that on the other side, he foresaw such unsurmountable difficulties in attempting such a re-establishment, that he did not think any policy, no nor the whole power of France, though he were able to command it intirely, could be able to carry him through them.

The Princess finding the King a little warmed, urged this point no farther, but said she would leave it between himself and God, whom she would continually pray to inspire His Majesty with light enough to know, and courage enough to imbrace the Truth in his appointed time. But however, she should be glad to know His Majesties sentiments as to the design against Holland, adding, ' That she was confident he could not but think it at least for his Interest, and feizable enough too. Yes, Madam, answered the King, I am convinced that if crowned with success, it would be enough for the Interest of this Monarchy, and of my people too ; but yet as practicable

cable as it seems to you, it is likewise not without its difficulties, and that very great ones too, for the ill success of my last War with that Nation, the dissatisfaction of my people thereupon; the Triple League in which I am newly ingaged with Holland, the inclinations my Subjects have for the Dutch, as a Protestant people, and the implacable aversion they have to the French, and their Jealousies of their power and of their Religion, are mighty obstacles in the way: However, if my Brother of France can propose me any practicable expedients to remove them, I will (as I have said) do what I can to comply with him in that Enterprize. In this discourse the Duke of York interposed little, but only express himself somewhat more inclinable to the Romish Religion, and seemed to insinuate, ' That if the power were in his hands, he would not fear but with some well managed and well timed assistance from his Most Christian Majesty, and especially in Money, to encounter, and, with the blessing of God, to surmount all those dangers and difficulties which seemed so insuperable to the King his Brother.

And so the Princess seeming satisfied with what had been said upon the subject of her Errand, they passed from business of State to more familiar discourse, and to caressing and entertaining one another, with that freedom which was suitable to their dignity, being obliged to break off much sooner than they were willing, by the approach of the time of her departure, who with inconceiveable regret and ill presaging tears took her leave, though little she or they imagined it her last farewell to her Royal Brothers. Thus was this first expedient of Monsieur Le Teliers successful enough, neither was the next neglected, which was to send over with her Highness such a choice Female as might be able to charm a Prince, whose heart was so susceptible of an amorous flame as that of the King of England,

England, and serve our great and politick Monarch (saith the French Author) for a Heifer to Plow withal afterward, and further cultivate the Seeds of correspondence so auspiciously sown by Madam of Orleans; For she that has been better known since by the Title of Duchess of Portsmouth, and who then served in Quality of Maid of Honour to the Princess, was not carelessly nor fortuitously let go, but industriously and expressly called out from among the rest to attend her in that Voyage.

I have been more particular in this Relation, as being extracted by Monsieur Louvois own order, out of a Journal written of that Voyage and Negotiation, by a person appointed by the French King to attend the Duchess to that purpose, whereby we have a true light into all the Intrigues and Negotiations of the English Court, and from what Maxims and Springs they afterward proceeded, even to the Abdication of the late King James, and the Happy Revolution that followed thereupon.

The Duchess of Orleance returned to France, and June 20. after died at St. Clou, not without great suspicion of ill practices upon her life. Oct. 30. His Highness the Prince of Orange arrived at White-Hall, he visited both the Universities, and his entertainment was in all places answerable to the dignity of his person, being complemented by the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and Al lermen, with his welcome to England, and Decemb. 6. His Highness was pleased to honour them with his presence at a Dinner at Drapers-Hall. Feb. 3. following, His Highness returned to Holland. March 6. The Parliament having by this time compleated several Acts, one being for an Additional Excise upon Beer and Ale, the King came to the House of Peers and passed them; and the Lords and Commons being every day more sensible of the progress of Popery and Arbitrary Government, they represented to the King, in an humble Address, their fears and

and apprehensions of the growth and increase of the popish Religion, whereupon in compliance with their desires, a customary Proclamation is published. ' Commanding all Jesuits, and English, Irish, and such Priests, and all others that had taken Orders from the See of Rome, except such as were by contract of Marriage to wait upon the Queen, or Forreign Ambassadors, to depart upon pain of being prosecuted. But this, by the many great Friends they had at Court, was as little effectual as the other.

That which made the greatest noise in the World this year 1670. was the sudden Invasion of the Duke-dom of Lorrain by the perfidy of the French King, Marshal Crequi with a great Army over-running it like a Torrent, so that by Winter there was scarce a Town but what was in the possession of France. The French King pretended his design was only to lay aside the old Duke, and confer the Dutchy of Lorrain upon Prince Charles then at Vienna, to whom he sent a Message, ' That if he would hold it of him, and be in all things at his Devotion, he would put him in possession of it. The old Duke being thus treacherously deprived of all his Territories, wandred up and down to beg assistance from his Neighbour Princes to reinstate him, who promised fair, but did little more than come to a conditional agreement for raising Forces for the common good and safety of Europe; the Dutch being so alarm'd on one side, and the Switzers on the other, that they put themselves into the best posture of defence they could.

In 1671. March 31. Her Royal Highness Anne Duchess of York, after a long indisposition, died at St. James's: The Parliament now sitting, an Act was passed for an addition to the Kings Revenue, by an Imposition upon proceedings at Law, and several others; after which they were prorogued to April 16. following. About this time an odd accident happened, Lt. Coll. Bloud, and three others, coming to the

Keeper of the Jewel house in the Tower of London in the morning, and desiring to see the Regal Crown, were carried into the Room where it was kept, but they ~~carried~~ Gagging the Keeper an ancient man, and putting the Crown and Ball into two Bags which they had brought on purpose, fairly walked away, and had almost passed all the Centinels, but the Son-in-Law of the Keeper casually passing by, and seeing the condition his Father lay in, ran out hastily, crying to the Guards to stop them, upon this they mending their pace discovered themselves. Being thus commanded to stand, they fired a Pistol at the Centinel, but two of them were instantly seized and carried to White-Hall, and after examination sent back to the Tower, to be kept close prisoners where they had committed the Fact.

The King now resolved to make a second War upon Holland in pursuance of the French Kings Advice, who it seems had found out the expedients that were necessary in order to it, which were managed by the famous Dutchess of Portsmouth, who was often used as an Ambassadress between the two Kings. In order hereunto, he makes as it were a Sea progres, to take an account of the State of the Western Maritime Towns, for arriving first at Portsmouth, he went in his Yatch to the Isle of Wight, thence to Hurst and Corfe castles. After this, with five Frigates attending him, he went thence to Plymouth, thence back to Dartmouth, and so returned to London by Land. In the next place, to remove all obstacles that might hinder him in this mighty Enterprize, the Parliament was prorogued from April 16. 1671. to October 30. 1672. about eighteen months; and it being agreed at Dover to break the Triple League, and to join with France against the Hollanders, we endeavoured first to make it ridiculous, so that when the Emperor of Germany, the Duke of Lorrain, and several other German Princes, desired to be admitted into it, it was

was absolutely refused them, and the formerly extorted League was trampled under foot, and undervalued to the utmost, and it plainly appeared, That it was broken only to serve the ends of the French King, To win the Dutch, and to bring these three Kingdoms under the Yoke of Popery and Arbitrary power, after a total abolition of the Name of Parliaments, and subversion of the fundamental Laws : And to satisfie the Swede for this breach, a Gentleman was sent Ambassador to that Crown, who co-operating with the French Ministers in that Court, procured from him the dissolution of the League, yet the Swede after it came to a Rupture, never assisted to any purpose, or prosecuted the ends of the Alliance jointly, but Arming himself at the expence of the League, first under a pretended Mediation, acted the French Interest, and at last threw off his Vizard, and appeared publickly on the French side in this Quarrel ; And at home, when the project began to grow ripe, the Lord Keeper was discharged from his Office, and both he, the Duke of Ormond, Prince Rupert, and Secretary Trevor, were discarded out of the Committee of Foreign Affairs, as being too honest to comply with the Intrigues then on foot.

It could now no longer be concealed what the secret Councils of the Great Ones had been so long aiming at, for in January 1671-2. the King resolving upon a War with the Dutch, openly declared, ' That seeing all the Princes and States, his Neighbours, were making preparations for War both by Sea and Land, he looked upon himself bound, for the safety of his Government, and protection of his people, to make such preparations as should be answerable to the preservation of them both, to which end he had given order for fitting and setting out a considerable Navy against the Spring ; but Money was wanting, and his own Revenues all anticipated, and deeply engaged : As therefore the necessity was inevitable,

evitable, the course taken was extraordinary ; It being thought absolutely convenient to put a stop upon any Money then brought in, or to be brought into the Exchequer, during the space of one whole year : To which, as to the last remedy, (as the King himself declared) nothing could have moved him but such a conjuncture of affairs, when all the Neighbouring Princes and States were making such threatening preparations, that his Government could not be safe without appearing in the same posture. This was a severe blow upon several wealthy Goldsmiths, and other Moneyed people, who had lent vast sums into the Exchequer, and were hereby cast into astonishment, ruin and despair ; and the whole Nation stood in admiration, that in the midst of the confluence of so many vast Aids, and so great a Revenue, the Crown should proclaim it self Bankrupt, and make Prize of the Subject, and break all Faith and Covenant at home, in order to breaking of both abroad with more advantage. The new Lord Clifford, with the help of his Friends, was the contriver of this project, for after the War was resolved on, the next thing requisite was to find a Fund for the charge, which was very difficult ; for the Parliament having by woful experience felt, from the ill conduct, the burden of the first War, was unwilling to ingage in a second. For this the Inventor had the Treasurers white Staff given him as a reward, the Fund gained hereby being about thirteen or fourteen hundred thousand pounds.

It was not thought necessary, while we were going to make War with our Neighbours, to prevent any dissentions at home ; and upon this pretence, by virtue of the Dispensing Power, and to wheedle the Dissenters, a Declaration was published for Liberty of Conscience to people of all persuasions, and the execution of all Penal Laws, in matters of Religion, were hereby absolutely Suspended. And now after

the

the disgrace we had received by the first Dutch War, that we might find a plausible pretence for a second, and to assert the Justice of the intended quarrel. one of our Yatches, called the Fausau, was ordered in her coming from Holland to steer out of her course, and through the Dutch Naval Fleet then riding at Sea, that in case the whole Dutch Fleet did not strike to our Boat, we might make that the ground of a breach. The great Commander de Ruyter then Admiral, not thinking their Articles of Peace could be understood to reach such a little circumstance, did not answer our demands or expectation, and for not doing it, and the pretence of some trivial Medals and Pictures, and a great noise of infamous Libels and Pictures set up (which yet never were in being but in the imagination of malicious designing men) this was made the cause of a quarrel without remedy. It is true there was a Medal Coined that might have been spared, but so soon as the States found that exceptions were taken at it, the Stamp was broken to pieces.

This War was commenced without any previous Declaration, by falling upon the Dutch Smyrna Fleet in the channel (as we had done in the first War before Cadiz) as they were upon their Voyage home; for March 13. five of the Kings Frigates cruising by the Isle of Wight, met with the Smyrna Fleet, and others, in all about 50 Sail, convoyed by 6 Dutch Men of War, above 20 of their Merchant men carried between 20 and 40 Guns apiece; the English Frigates coming near shot at them, which they returned, and the fight began in the Afternoon and continued till Night, then 3 Frigats more coming in, the next morning they fought again, and all that day, and in the evening 5 of their richest Merchant men were taken. The first blow thus given, the King publishes his Declaration of War against the States General of the United Provinces to this effect, dated March 28. 1672. ' That the dissatisfaction His Majesty had, in the carriage of the States General of the United

United Provinces toward him for some years past, being come to that pass that he could no longer, without the diminution of his own Glory, dissemble the Indignation raised in him by a Treatment so unsuitable to the great obligations which he and his Predecessors had so liberally heaped upon them, he was resolved to declare War against them, forbidding all his Subjects to hold correspondence with them upon pain of Death.

The French King finding that we were now ingaged past all Retreat, makes great preparations in Flanders, drawing all his Forces into a Body thither, and buying up all the Flambeaux or Torches that could be got in the Countrey, as if he intended to labour Night and Day, and soon after the Dutch Ambassador was dismiss'd from Paris, when desiring leave for his last Audience, and a Pass for the safe Transporting of his Goods by Sea, Reply was made, ' That for his Audience he might have it as soon as he pleased, but for his Goods they were to be viewed by the Officers of the Customs before they could stir; and soon after War was proclaimed at Paris against the Hollanders, both by Sea and Land.

The Dutch in the mean time endeavour to get the Dane and the Swede of their side, but the French by his Intrigues, prevented any Alliance with the first: They therefore employ all their Consultations for providing a Navy at Sea, and an Army at Land, and lest they should want a Head, His Highness the Prince of Orange is by the general consent of the States, in a full Assembly, made their Captain General, and Admiral, for that Campaign, ingaging to renew it again after expiration during life; Commissioners also were appointed to assist him therein. The Emperor of Germany seeing things at this height, offered his Mediation between the French King and the States, but it was too late. King Lewis sent to the Queen Regent of Spain to know her positive resolution

lution how she would behave her self in this juncture of affairs, but she took time to return an answer.

While the King of England is preparing his Fleet by sea, the French King, leaving the management of affairs to his Queen, marches in the head of his Army to Charleroy, the chief place of Rendevouz, whence he sends to Count Monterey, Governor of the Spanish Netherlands, to assure him, ' That though he were constrained to march through his Countries, yet he would take care that not the least act of Hostility should be committed. In May he appeared before Maastricht, which was block'd up; and from thence, with his main Army, he marched to Rhineburg. In the mean time the French Squadron, which by the secret Dover Treaty were to join ours, arrived under Count de Estre at St. Hellens, whither the King went joyfully to see them, who being joined with ours made in all 160 Sail, but the design was only to teach them to fight, to sound our Coasts, to spy our Ports, to learn our building of Ships, and to consume ours and preserve their own Navy, and not to help us, for none of their Ships were suffered to fight but stand by and learn; and one French Commander, through ignorance of the Intrigue, did fight, the Captain of her, as it was said, at his return was clapped up in the Bastile for losing his Masters Ship, which we never heard was complained of by us, nor excused by them. May 28. 1672. the Dutch Fleet came upon us in Southwold Bay, and surprized us, as we urged to our shame; after a sharp dispute of eight hours, wherein the Duke of York was again Admiral, as being engag'd by Religion, inclination and Interest, to destroy this Heretical Commonwealth, both Fleets retire to their own Coasts. In this Engagement we lost outright the Earl of Sandwich, Captain Digby in the Henry, Sir John Cox in the Prince, Sir Frecheville Hollis, with several others wounded, and about 700 Seamen slain, and as many wounded, and the Royal James

James burnt: In the Henry not an Officer was left alive, and above half the men slain.

The Dutch lost Admiral Van Ghent and Captain Brakhel, and several sunk: But their loss was far greater at Land, for the French Army coming on like a Flood, and the Dutch Garrisons being unprovided for defence, Rhinegrave, Wesel, Ossup, Barick, Rees, Shenk Scons, and several other places, fell into the hands of the French, which bred much confusion in the Netherlands, so that the most Wealthy Inhabitants took the Country, and the States General removed from the Hague to Amsterdam for their better security, opening the Sluces, and putting the Country round under Water. The King at the same time published a Declaration, ' That if any of the Low Country Subjects, either out of affection to his Majesty, or his Government, or because of the oppression they met with at home from their Governors, would come into this Kingdom, they should be protected and Naturalized, and their Ships that they brought along with them should enjoy the same privileges as if built in England, and belonging to his own Subjects. And at the same time, because the people were much averse to this War against the Protestant State, a Proclamation was published, ' To forbid all persons, either by writing or speaking, to divulge false News or Reports, or to intermeddle in matters of Government, or any of His Majesties Ministers or Counsellors, in their common discourses.

The Dutch were still more streightned at Land, the French King, after Arnhem, Utrecht, Zutphen, and Emerick, had been surrendred to him, being advanc'd to Naerden, within three Leagues of Amsterdam. On the other side, the Bishop of Munster joining with the French, had taken Deventer, Grol, Borkelo, and other places, so that the people began to mutiny in several places, particularly at Dordrecht,

of whicher they sent for His Highness the Prince of Orange, where as he was at Dinner with the Lords at the Paw, being the principal House in the Town, the Burgers, who were in Arms, surrounded the House, and sent up their Captains to tell the Lords, ' That except they presently drew up a paper, and put their hands to it, for declaring the Prince Stadholder, they would cut all their Throats. Whereupon the paper was immediately drawn up and signed, by which His Highness was declared Stadholder, with all the Powers and Authorities, in as ample manner as any of his Ancestors had enjoyed the same: they also renounced the perpetual Edict, &c. All which was confirmed in a full Assembly of the States.

The French King had now taken above seventy Citys, Towns and Forts, from the Dutch, according to their own printed List, which made King Charles himself jealous of his great successes in so short a time; he being unwilling that France should become Master of all, he therefore speedily sent the Duke of Buckingham, and the Earl of Arlington, &c. as Plenipotentiaries to King Lewis, who lay incamped before Stretcht, where the Treaty of Alliance was renewed, thereby binding themselves to hearken to no propositions of Peace without satisfaction to both Kings, of which the States had notice by a Letter from the Plenipotentiaries, to His Highness the Prince of Orange, with Articles of demands; the French King requiring, ' That for the future not only a full liberty, but also the publick exercise of the Roman Catholick Religion shall be allowed through all the United Provinces, and in all places where more than one Church shall be, one to be given to the Catholicks, and where there is none, to have liberty to build one, and in the mean time to celebrate Divine service publickly in such Houses as they shall hire, and a maintenance to be allowed every Priest out of the Church, or otherwise. That the States shall quit

‘ to the King all their Provinces, Cities, and places
‘ in Flanders and Brabant, the City of N
miguen,
‘ Skinkenscons, Isle of Bromwell, and many other
‘ Forts and Castles. Lastly, To pay him twenty
‘ Millions for the charge of the War, and that every
‘ year the States, upon a certain day, shall, by an
‘ Ambassador Extraordinary, present to the King a
‘ Golden Medal weighing a Mark, which shall con-
‘ tain, That they hold the preservation of the same
‘ freedom from His Majesty, which the Kings his
‘ predecessors have helped them to obtain ; all which
‘ they were to consent to in ten days, and likewise
‘ to give satisfaction to the King of England, and his
‘ other Allies.

The King of Englands demands were, ‘ The al-
‘ lowing him the honour of the Flag, so that the
‘ whole Dutch Fleet should be obliged to strike and
‘ let fall their Topsails to any one English Ship,
‘ bearing the Kings Flag, throughout the British
‘ Seas, even to the Coast of Holland ; The perpetual
‘ banishment of all his Subjects guilty of Treason,
‘ and of all other who have published Seditious Li-
‘ bels, or conspired against the Peace and Tranquil-
‘ lity of his Kingdoms : That they pay to the King
‘ one Million Sterling, whereof four hundred thou-
‘ sand pounds in October following, and the rest by
‘ an hundred thousand pounds a year till the whole
‘ was discharged, and to pay ten thousand pounds
‘ Sterling more every year for ever, for fishing for
‘ Herring upon the Coasts of Great Britain and Ire-
‘ land. That the Island of Walcherery, the City
‘ and Castle of Siuce, with the Islands of Caflant,
‘ Gooree and Vorn, be put into the Kings hands for
‘ security till the Money be paid.

But these conditions not being thought feizable,
the States General rather chose to venture the fortune
of War, than to buy an uncertain Peace at such a dear
and unreasonable rate ; in the mean time the people
grew

grew very tumultuous in divers places, which the Prince endeavoured by Letters to several Cities to prevent, by commanding them to abstain from such proceedings upon pain of being punished according to their merits. July 24. Cornelius and John de Wit were brought from Dord to the Hague, where the first was accused by a Barber of Bodegrave, that he offered him Money to kill His Highness, who thereupon was brought before the Court of Justice, and confronted by his accuser, but continuing to deny the fact, he was put upon the Rack, which he endured twice ; next morning sentence was pronounced against him, ‘ That he was fallen from all Offices and Dignities, and banished from Holland and Westfrizeland, never to return upon pain of greater punishment. Whereupon John de Wit goes in the Afternoon in his Coach to fetch away his Brother, but the people being incensed at their many misfortunes, which they imagined them to be accessory to, as they were coming out of the Prison forced them back again, broke open the Prison doors, and haled them out. The Rabble having now got them into their possession, never left till they had shot, beat, and trampled them to death ; this not sufficing, they dragged their dead bodies along the Streets, cutting off their fingers, Toes, Nose, Ears, and Privy members, which they sold for money to each other, hanging their mangled Carcasses stark naked upon the Gibbet : And this was the miserable end of these two Brothers.

His Highness the Prince of Orange being now settled in the Stateholdership, he endeavoured to reform what had been amiss by placing new Governors in several places, and changing the Magistrates of most Towns of the Low Countries, with great satisfaction to the people : The Parliament in England, who were to have met in October, were adjourned to February, the Court being doubtful they would dislike this renewed

newed Alliance with France. The Emperor being sensible of the danger of the French Kings ambition, resolved, if possible, to put a stop thereto, so that a general Treaty was concluded at the Diet of Ratis-bone, for the publick Peace and security of the Empire: In persuance whereof, the Imperial and Brandenburg Forces marched toward the Frontiers of France, which was a very seasonable diversion to give the Netherlands a breathing time, for Marshal Tureine, the French General, was obliged to draw off to attend their motion toward Leipstadt, and the Bishop of Munster was very apprehensive of the Brandenburgers. It was discours'd that the French Envoy, who was present at the Diet, to divert the Emperor from assisting the Hollanders, declared, ' That his Master and the King of England had entred into the War against the United Provinces upon the account of Religion, and that if they would renounce their Heresie, and embrace and establish the Catholick Religion in their Country, both Princes would instantly restore them to their former Peace and Tranquillity.

Upon the approach of the Confederates, Marshal Tureine declared to the Electors and Princes of the Empire, in the French Kings Name, ' That it was not the Kings intention to meddle with any thing that belonged to the Empire, and that if any of his Troops had entred into it, it was the inevitable consequences of the War against the United Provinces, and therefore understanding that several Forces were upon their march towards his Conquests, to disturb his possession, and to give occasion of Jealousie to his Allies, he was therefore obliged to pass his Army over the Rhine: And as for the Duke of Brandenburg, That the King had frequently requested him not to meddle in a War in which he had no concern: And therefore if things went further, they were desired to take notice that it wa

‘ once in their power to have preserved the peace of the Empire and their own. The Elector of Cologne and the Bishop of Munster, openly declared at the Diet against the march of the Imperialists, but the rest being generally Deputies, had no power to Reply, and the Duke of Hanover refused them passage through his Territories: So far had the French Luis d’ores prevailed upon these Princes, that they supported the ambition of that King, though to the endangering the loss of their own Countries, and the Slavery of Europe.

The latter end of this year the Lord Clifford was made Lord High Treasurer of England, and the Earl of Shaftsbury Lord Chancellor, the Lord Keeper Bridgman having resigned his Office. At this time the hopes of the Spanish and Smyrna Fleets being vanished, the slender allowance from the French not sufficing to defray further charges, and the Kings ordinary Revenue, with all the former Aids, being in less than one years time exhausted, the Parliament were permitted to sit, and met accordingly Feb. 4. following, at which time this second War with Holland was first communicated to them, and the causes, necessity and danger, thereof declared, and then the King added, ‘ Some days before I declared the War, I gave out my Declaration of Indulgence for the differing parties in Religion, and have hitherto found the good effects of it: There is one part of it which is subject to misconstructions, That which concerns the Papists, as if more freedom was granted to them than to other Recusants, whereas it is evident they have less, having only the liberty of Religion in their Houses, and less than this I could not grant them, most of them having been faithful in their Service to me and my Father; and in the whole course of this Indulgence, my intention is not that it should in any wise prejudice the Church, but will maintain it in all its privi-

ledges, and that in their full power. Having now said this, I shall take it very ill to meet with any contradiction in what I have done, and to be plain with you, I am resolved to persist in my Declaration. There is one scruple more which is maliciously divulged abroad, but yet so slight and frivolous, that I scarce thought it worth making mention of, had it not perhaps already got credit with some well-meaning people, and that is, That the Forces which I have raised in this War should be contrived to oppose the Law and Propriety: I wish I had had more Forces the last Summer, the want whereof convinceth me that I must raise more the next Spring, and doubt not but you will consider the charge thereof in your Supply. I will conclude with this assurance to you, That I will maintain the true Reformed Protestant Religion and the Church, as it is now Established in this Kingdom, and that no bodies Property or Freedom shall be invaded. The Chancellor illustrated this more fully, shewing the necessity of this War from the many Insolencies which that State had committed against all Crowns in general, aspiring after an Universal Empire, as great as that of Rome, but especially against England, so that His Majesty might well call it, The Parliament War, and therefore he doubted not but that they would give him such effectual assistance, that the Dutch should never more be formidable to Kings, or dangerous to England. He afterwards recommended to them the care of paying the Kings Debts, and excused the necessity of shutting up the Exchequer, and likewise the Indulgence to Papists, which no good man could scruple; and that the Army the King had raised was absolutely necessary.

But notwithstanding all these fair pretences, the Parliament were very sensible of the growth of Popery, and the advancement of the Prerogative in Dispensing with all the Penal Statutes, and raising of standing

standing Forces ; whereupon, after they had sat above a month, and done little but only Voted the raising of money, the Court-party much pressing the finishing the Bill, the Parliament drew up an Address to the King, ' That for satisfying and composing the minds of his Subjects, he would recal his Declaration of Indulgence, and regulate some other lately Arbitrary proceedings. To which the King, (notwithstanding his late Resolution) was obliged to comply, and March 23. following, coming to the House he made the following Speech :

' My Lords and Gentlemen, Yesterday you presented me an Address as the best means for satisfying and composing the minds of my Subjects, to which I freely and readily agreed, and I shall take care to see it performed accordingly ; I hope on the other side, you Gentlemen of the House of Commons, will do your part, for I must put you in mind that it is near five Weeks since I demanded a Supply, and what you then Voted unanimously did give life to my Affairs, but if it be not speedily dispatched, the Honour and Interest of England will be indangered. Pray lay this to heart, and let not the fears and jealousies of some draw an inevitable Ruin on us all : If there be any scruple yet remaining with you, concerning the Suspension of Penal Laws, I here faithfully promise you, That what hath been done in that particular, shall not for the future be drawn either into consequence or example.

Though this War was entered into without the Advice of the Parliament, yet for the Honour of the Nation, and upon the Kings thus renouncing the Dispensing Power, they gave him a Supply of twelve hundred and thirty eight thousand pounds, but would not say it was for the War, but for the Kings Extraordinary occasions.

The year 1673. produced several Fights and Skirmishes.

misles at Sea between the Dutch and English Fleet commanded by Prince Rupert, particularly May 28. when both sides claimed the Victory: Again, June 4. where neither side lost a Ship: And August 10. where Sir Edward Spragg was killed, and in conclusion we were forced to retire to our own Coasts; whereupon the States General ordered their next Fast-day to be turn'd into a Thanksgiving for this Succes against the English; and the Army that lay at Yarmouth, to make a Descent upon Holland, were ordered into Winter Quarters.

Notwithstanding the fury of the War, both the King of England, and the Hollanders too, seemed inclinable to Peace: To which purpose a Treaty was begun between the King and the States at Cologre, whereat the Allies of both parties were to be present, the Plenipotentiaries for the King of England were Sir Joseph Williamson and Sir Lyonel Jenkyns, and two for the King of Spain, two for the Emperor; one for Sweden, three for Holland, and one for the French King: Being met, the propositions delivered by the English Plenipotentiaries appeared so unreasonable to the Dutch, (who were sensible that the Parliament were but ill affected to the War) that they sent a large Letter to the King, dated Octob. 25. wherein they declare the desire they had to conclude a Peace, and what steps they had made toward it, by the Mediation of the Duke of Brandenburg, the King of Spain, and the earnest instances of His Highness the Prince of Orange. which to their great sorrow they had seen ineffectual, and that it was declared to them at Cologne, ' That there was no Peace to be hoped for, unless they would yielde to such conditions as were never imposed upon a free people, and tending to the Subversion of the Christian Protestant Religion (whereof the King and his Prelievers had always been the greatest Bulwark and Defenders) and the total Ruin of that State, and likewise

of likewise of the Spanish Netherlands. This Letter was designed to influence the Parliament in their favour, who were to meet Oct. 30. following, which the King was sensible of, but knowing there was too much truth in it, he sent them a very severe answer.

The Duke of York had for some time before been Treating of a Marriage with the Sister of the Duke of Modena, but the Parliament being now come together, the House of Commons presently cryed out against it, and ordered an Address to be drawn up to the King, ' That it was the humble Request of that House, that the intended Marriage of his Royal Highness, with the Duchess of Modena, might not be accomplished, and that he might Marry with no person except one of the Protestant Religion. Thereupon the Parliament is prorogued to Nov. 6.. being then met again, the King tells them, ' That he had thought to have welcomed them with an honourable Peace, but the Hollanders had abused him, and in the Treaty at Cologa deridingly called his Ambassadors Conquerors, and had not acted so as might have been expected from men in their condition : He therefore desired a sufficient Supply to carry on the War, assuring them of his stedfastness in keeping all his promises about Religion and Propriety, for the preservation of which he should be ready to give new Evidences upon occasion. The Chancellor spoke all that was possible to animate them against the Dutch, saying, *Delenda est Carthago.* The Commonwealth of Holland must be Ruined and Destroyed : But the Commons hereupon desired an answer to their Address about the Duchess of Modena, which the King sent Nov. 9. by Secretary Coventry, namely, ' That His Majesty observed that the House of Commons wanted full Information of this case, the Marriage being not only simply intenled, but concluded by his Royal Assent and Authority. Upon which it was Voted to make a second Address,

and a Committee were ordered to bring in a Bill, Declaring all Papists incapable of sitting in either House of Parliament ; and next day, in answer to the Kirgs Speech about a Supply, it was Voted, ' That this House will not proceed to the consideration of any further Supply, before the eighteen months for raising twelve hundred thirty eight thousand pounds, given by the last Act of Assessment, be expired. They then presented another Address, about the Duke of Yorks Marriage, to this effect : ' That foreseeing the dangerous consequence which depends on the Marriage of his Royal Highness with the Princeps of Modena, or with any other of the Popish Religion, they held themselves bound in duty and conscience to represent the same to His Majesty, That if this Marriage went on, the minds of his Protestant Subjects would be disquieted with endless fears and jealousies, and the King would be brought into such Forreign Alliances as might greatly prejudice, if not ruin the Interest of the Protestant Religion : That we by sad experience have found, that such miscarriages have increased and encouraged Popery in this Kingdom, and given opportunity to Priests and Jesuits to spread their opinions, and to seduce a great multitude of His Majesties Subjects and it was observed already how much that party lifted up their heads, and took courage upon the hope that this Marriage would go forwar', who were lately discouraged by what the King granted the last Session of Parliament, so that they were greatly afraid that this might cause in the people a lessening of Affection to his Royal Highness, who was so near related to the Crown. That for another Age more at least, we of this Kingdom should be continually filled with fears of the growth of Popery, and the danger of the Protestant Religion. Lastly, That this Princeps having so many Relations and Kindred in the Court of Rome

Rome it might be a great furtherance to their designs and practices among us, whereby they might penetrate into His Majesties most secret Councils, and discover the State of the Kingdom: And it being the opinion of many Learned men, that Treaties and Contracts made by Proxy may be avoided, of which divers examples might be produced, they beseech His Majesty to disanul the same, and prevent the consummation thereof, especially considering they had not the happiness to see any issue from His Majesty to succeed in the Government.

Though the reasonableness of the desires of this Loyal Parliament appears in this Address, yet the King rather chose to disoblige them and the whole Nation, than that such a hopeful Popish Match should be prevented, upon which much of the future Intrigues of the Popish Cabal depended, and therefore coming to the House Nov. 4. 1673. he makes this Speech to the Parliament.

My Lords and Gentlemen, I need not tell you how unwillingly I call you hither at this time, being enough sensible what advantage my Enemies, both at home and abroad, will reap by the least appearance of a difference betwixt me and my Parliament; nay, I am assured, That they expect more success from such a breach, could they procure it, than from their Arms. This, I say, shall, whilst I live, be my chief endeavour to prevent, and for that reason I think it necessary to make a short Reces, that all good men may recollect themselves against the next meeting, and consider whether the present posture of Affairs will not rather require their application to secure our Religion, and support us against our only Competitors at Sea, than to things of less importance, and in the mean time I will not be wanting to let all my Subjects see that no care can be greater than my own, in the effectual suppressing of Popery, and it shall be your

faults,

faults, if in your several Countries the Laws be not effectually executed against the growth of it ; neither will I be idle in some other things that may add to your satisfaction, and then I shall expect a suitable return from you.

And for a full answer to their Address, the Lord Chancellor prorogued the Parliament till Jan. 7. following, but because the occasion of this prorogation was thought too barefaced, and might confirm the people in their ill opinion of the present Transactions, therefore it was thought fit to publish a Proclamation Nov. 20. following, wherein the King declares. ' That in persuance of his Gracious assurances to both Houses of Parliament at the last prorogation, he would let his Subjects see that there could be no greater care than that of his, for the effectual suppressing of Popery, therefore he had given command to the Lord High Steward, and Lord Chamberlain of his Household, to hinder all Papists and Popish Recusants, or those that were suspected to be such, from having any access to his presence from that time ; and had likewise ordered the Judges to consider of the most effectual means to put the Laws in Execution against them, and for preservation of the true established Religion. The Duke of York, likewise resolving to take as effectual care for rooting out of Popery as himself, desired that his Palace of St. James's, as being within the Verge of the Court, might partake of the benefit of this Proclamation, so that no papist might come into his Court or presence, which His Majesty was Graciously pleased to Grant, publishing soon after a special Proclamation to that purpose.

But the Marriage being a matter of special consequence, the King was resolved it should be consummated with all speed. We must here observe, that some time before a Marriage was proposed between the Duke of York, and the Archduchess of Innspruck in

in Germany, who was one of the greatest Beauties in Europe, and a branch of the House of Austria, which France sought by all means to hinder, as fearing it might weaken the new made Alliance betwixt the Families of Bourbon and Stuart, and the Emperor by casting in some difficulties obstructed the same, yet at last all things were so adjusted, that the Match seemed to be upon conclusion, when in the interim the Empress of Germany dies, which gave so great a check to the Treaty that it was soon after wholly broken off, the Emperor declaring, That he had chosen this Princess for his Bride, and the Marriage was solemnized Oct. 15. following. Hereby the French were freed from their doubts of the Alliance between the two Crowns being impaired by this Marriage, and to prevent the like for the future, that King resolved to find out a Princess for the Duke of York, that might make it more durable: Many were propounded, but the French Kings eye was directed toward Italy, where many Princesses were by the Mothers side of the French Off-spring, and particularly of Modena, Sister to the present Duke, between whom a Treaty is with much earnestness set forward, so that within a few days the Marriage between her and his Royal Highness is concluded, which the French King was so intent upon, that to facilitate the same, he promised a good Sum of his own money for her Dowry, and the Earl of Peterborough was sent to conduct her, and her Mother, through France to England. She arrived Nov. 21. at Dover, where the Ceremony of Marriage was performed by the Bishop of Oxford, it being the very next day after the publishing the Proclamation, That no Papist, Priest, or Jesuit, should come into the Kings or Dukes presence, which made wise men smile at the sincerity of the pretences that were then made for securing the Protestant Religion and Interest, when they both had Roman Catholicks in their bosoms.

The War with Holland continuing, and there being little hopes of obtaining more money from the Parliament of England for supporting the same, the King having had experience of the redundant Loyalty of Scotland, the Earl (after Duke) of Lauderdale, was sent thither as Lord Commissioner, and the Parliament being Assembled, Nov. 22. 1673. the Kings Letter to them was read and enlarged upon by the Commissioner, ' That the King had declared to the Parliament at their last Session, the reasons of the War against Holland, and that they had then given him considerable assistances and provisions of Money for maintaining the same, but being now necessitated to continue the War, he recommended to them the raising of such Supplies as were sufficient for maintaining His Majesties Honour and Interest, and the peace of the Kingdom, ' leaving the manner and method thereof to their wisdom and discretion. He concluded by recommending to them, above all business else, the preparing an answer to the Kings Letter the next sitting day, but when they came to debate it, some urged that the Grievances of the Kingdom, which were very great and very many, ought to be Redressed before they considered the business of Money; upon which, such great contests arose between the Commissioner and some of the Nobility, and other Members, that he perceiving no Subsidies would be granted till the Grievances were dispatch'd, which he had neither power nor will to Redress, the Parliament, without doing any thing of importance, were, to their great discontent, prorogued from Decemb. 10. to Feb. 7. following, having first deputed Duke Hamilton, and some others, to go to London to the King.

The hopes of Money from Scotland being thus vanished, and the French King having little enough to supply his own occasions, our Court now began to listen after peace, yea, a separate Peace, by excluding

ding the French, which was thought so-impracticable a while since, that the King declared positively, He would hearken to no Terms without including his faithful Ally, and Brother in-Law, the Most Christian King: For though the Lords Mediators at Cologne, were very diligent to find out expedients for the satisfaction of every one, yet so many difficulties were started, that it was not easie to compose them, however it was strongly endeavoured to promote, if possible, an Union between Holland and England, to which purpose the Spanish Ambassador made the following proposals, ' That the point of the Flag should be ordered to the content of the K. of England: ' That all places and prizes, which during these Wars have been taken on both sides, by either Nation, out of Europe, should be restored: That the K. of England should be paid, for defraying the charges of the War, eight hundred thousand Patacoons, or twenty Tun of Gold, amounting to two hundred thousand pounds Sterling. The Ambassador pressed these Conditions so strenuously, that he declared, ' In case England should continue to refuse concluding a peace upon reasonable Terms with the United Netherlands, that then Spain, in persuance of the concluded and ratified Treaty, should be also necessitated to break with England. These proposals were afterward augmented, and a long Manifesto was publish'd, answering with many convincing Reasons, the Kings Declaration against the States General, in every particular, wherein they appeal, as to the Righteousness of their Cause, to the Judgment of the Great Council of Parliament, and the people of England, to this effect :

' So it is, that we here in the uprightness of our Hearts, and in the confidence of our Integrity, do submit the sincerity of this our defence to the Judgment of the English Nation in general, and more especially to the High and Honourable Court of Parliament,

Parliament, as representing the whole Body of the Nation, whom we are not only willing to make full Arbitrators of the unhappy differences between the Court of England and Us, but shall also account it for the speediest step to a happy accommodation, if they (who must be agreed to be the best Judges of these Controversies) will take the pains to make a right distinction between the true Interest of the Nation, whom they represent, and the artificial, encunning craftiness and pretences, of some few evil minded men, who for promoting some false designs of their own, very little agreeing with the Duty which they owe both to God and their Country, have contrived this War, aiming at such pernicious ends as are destructive both to England and this State.

The States General were not mistaken in their hopes of the Parliament, who meeting Jan. 7. following, the King told them, ' That when he parted with them last, it was with a resolution of meeting them suddenly again, and that he had since done his part to give them satisfaction, and if there were any thing else that they might think wanting to secure Religion and Property, there was nothing which they could reasonably propose but he should be ready to receive it, and now he expected they should do their parts too, since our Enemies made vigorous preparations for War, and yet their chief hopes were to disunite us at home: That it was not possible for him to doubt of their affection at this time, that as the War cannot be well made without a Supply, so neither can a good Peace be made without being in a posture of War: That he was very far from being in love with War for Wars sake, but if he saw any likelihood of Peace without dishonour to himself, and damage to them, he would soon imbrace it: That the way to get a good Peace was to set out a good Fleet, and if Peace

Peace should follow, yet the Supply would be well given, since he was willing that whatever remain'd should be employed in building more Ships : That a speedy proportionable and cheerful Aid, was now more necessary than ever : That he knew they had heard much of his Alliance with France, and believed that it had been strangely represented to them, as if there were certain secret Articles of dangerous consequence, but he would make no difficulty of letting the Treaties, and all the Articles of them (without the least reserve) to be viewed by a Committee of both Houses, who might report the true intent of them ; and he assured them there was no other Treaty with France, either before or since, not already printed, but what should then be discovered to them. The Lord Keeper used many arguments to enforce the Kings Speech, especially to induce them to give a considerable Supply.

But the Parliament being weary of the War, resolved to endeavour to put an end to it, and the House of Commons adjourned themselves for five days, in which time they had taken full Information of all the Court Intrigues, wherein the late Lord Chancellor Shaftsbury was very serviceable to them, who had now taken other measures, so that they first resolved to have all their Grievances redressed, and the Protestant Religion, their Liberties and Properties, to be fully secured, and desired the King to publish a Proclamation for a Fast, to implore a blessing upon their proceedings, and that the Trained Bands of London and Westminster, might be raised for suppressing all tumultuous meetings and designs of the Papists. The next day the Duke of Buckingham, D. of Lauderdale, and Earl of Arlington, were accused about promoting the present War, and other pernicious designs ; two of them appeared in the House of Commons, and answered to their accusations,

tions, yet neither of them gave such satisfaction, but that an Address was presented to the King to remove them from his Counsels, his presence, and their Employments for ever.

Meanwhile the Marques de Fresno, Agent for the King of Spain, presented a Letter to the King from the States General, with five Articles, upon which they were willing to conclude the Peace: The King finding no Money coming from the Parliament, and doubting that some other of his Counsellors would be questioned, he pretended that the Hollanders proposals were now more reasonable, so that upon Jan. 24. which was the day the House of Commons had resolved it self into a Grand Committee, to consider of the Grievances of the Nation, the King coming to the House of Peers, makes a Speech to the Parliament, telling them, ' That the States General had sent him a Letter by the Spanish Ambassador, offering him terms of Peace upon conditions proposed before, but in a more becoming stile than heretofore: He therefore desired their speedy Advice, whether they thought it might consist with his Honour, and the Honour and Safety of the Nation, to accept of them, and if not, that they would enable him to procure better Terms. Hereupon the Commons Resolve, ' That upon consideration of His Majesties Gracious Speech, and the proposals of the States General of the United Provinces, this House is of opinion, that His Majesty be advised to proceed in a Treaty with the said States General, in order to a speedy Peace. But the Commons still proceeded against some of the Lords, so far at length as to consult of Impeaching them for High Treason, and a Test, or Declaration, was ordered to be made by every Member, to renounce the principal points of Popery, thereby to distinguish Papists from Protestants; Upon presenting their Advice, the King thanked the H. of Commons, assuring them that he

was fully inclined to conclude the Peace ; and Feb. 9. following, the Treaty was Signed by the Kings Commissioners, and the Marquess del Fresno on the part of the States, who was commissioned by them thereto. The busines of the Peace being over, and the Parliament still lowring upon the Ministers of State, or bogling at the Land Forces (whereof the eight new raised Regiments were upon the request of the Commons at last Disbanded) : Or being employed in further Bills against Popery, and for the Education, and Protestant Marriages of those of the Royal Family for the future, the King thought it necessary to prorogue them from Feb. 24. to Nov. 10. next following.

The Parliament being gone, the Popish Cabal foreseeing that want of Money would necessitate their frequent sitting, they resolved by no means to disoblige the French King, who was the only person that at a plunge might carry them through, if they should still meet with disappointments as they had hitherto perpetually done : They therefore resolved to be Mediators for peace between him and the Hollanders, that having all quiet about him, he might be perfectly at leisure to attend their project for the ruin of the Laws and Liberties of England, and therefore the English, Scotch and Irish Regiments, in the French Kings Service, were filled up, and numbers more sent thither, so that they amounted to 10000 men of the Kings Subjects, who oft by their Valour turned the fortune of the Battel to the French side. These being Trained up under French Discipline and principles, were ready upon occasion to be called back to execute the same Counsels in England. At home, the late proceedings of Parliament in quashing the Indulgence, questioning Ministers of State, drawing up Bills against Popery, and not Granting Money whensoevr asked, were crimes not to be forgiven ; the Court therefore contrived a new Stratagem, and after fifteen years, they began to remember that there

there were such a sort of men in England as the Old Cavalier party, and reckoned that by how much the more Generous, so much the more credulous they were, and fit to be abused. These were told, That all was at Stake in Church and State : (How truly said ? But how falsely meant.) That the Nation was running again to 1641. That this was the time for them to receive the recompence of their former Loyalty, and that henceforward the Cavaliers should enjoy all the great and small Offices in the Kingdom.

In this year 1674. The French King was obliged to quit all his Conquests in the Netherlands ; that which animated him to this great undertaking was the Alliance with the Crown of England, so potent by Sea and Land, and the hired assistance of the Princes of Cullen and Munster ; and these were also the occasion of his confusion, when he saw the first had agreed with the Dutch, and the other two were forced also to make their peace. This his Invasion was more by Money than Arms, and in the same manner he went back again, Nimeguen only made resistance against him, and Naerden only was by force of Arms regained from him after all his Conquests, which consisted chiefly in some Ensigns hung up in Nostredame Church, deeply sprinkled with the blood of many of the Nobility of France. And as he said, *Veni, Vidi, Vici*, I came, I saw, I overcame, so he might have added, *Ut Vidi, Ut Perii*, As I saw, so I lost; there being no less than an hundred thousand men that marched out of France upon this Expedition, who never saw their Country again. The Duke of Monmouth was now elected Chancellor of Cambridge : The Battel of Seneff, between the French and Dutch happened, in which the Prince of Orange remained Master of the Field. Dec. 18. the Lord Mayor and Aldermen presented the King with a Copy of the Freedom of the City, in a Box of Gold set over with Diamonds, to a considerable value. Jan. 10. The Dutches

Duchess of York is delivered of a Daughter. March 4. Four Tripoly Men of War were burnt in that Port by Sir John Narborough.

The Parliament was further prorogued from Nov. 10. 1674. to April 13. 1675. at which time they met, and both Houses fell instantly upon preparing several necessary Bills for the benefit of the Nation, when one morning a Bill was unexpectedly brought into the House of Lords, whereby all such as enjoyed any beneficial Office or Employment, Ecclesiastical, Civil or Military, and all Privy Counsellors, Justices of Peace, and Members of Parliament, were under a penalty to take the Oath, and make the Declaration and Abhorrence following:

‘ I A. B. Do declare that it is not lawful upon any pretence whatsoever, to take up Arms against the King, and that I do abhor that Traiterous position of taking Arms by his Authority against his person, or against those that are Commissionated by him, in persuance of such Commission: And I do swear that I will not at any time endeavour the Alteration of the Government, either in Church or State. So help me God.

This same Oath had been brought into the House in the Plague year at Oxford, but then by the assistance of those very persons who now introduced it, 'twas thrown out for fear of a general infection of the Vitals of the Kingdom, and though it passed in the five mile Act against Nonconformist preachers, yet it was then throughly opposed by the prudent and loyal Earl of Southampton. This the Court called, A moderate security of the Church and Crown, but laid so much weight upon it, as if the whole Sum of Affairs had depended upon it. By this Test Men were required to declare their abhorrence (as of a Traiterous Position) of taking Arms against those that are commissionned

commissioned by the King in persuance of such commission, and yet neither is the Tenor, or Rule of any such Commission specified, nor the Qualification of those that shall be Armed with such Commissions express or limited ; for if it be a Commission to take away any mans Estate or Life, yet it is the Kings Commission, and though the person Commissionate be never so ineapable by Act of Parliament, yet if a man stand upon his defence against such an illegal person, he is Guilty of Treason. And though these may seem remote considerations, yet in a Law all cases ought to be put and imagined. But there being an Act in Scotland for 20000 men to march into England upon call, and so great a body of English Souldiery in France, besides what Forreigners might be obliged by Treary to furnish, and it being so fresh in memory what kind of persons had been lately in commission, all these were sufficient to make a wise man very cautious in taking such an Oath ; it grew therefore the greatest contest that perhaps ever happened in Parliament, for seventeen days together : But before this Test could pass the House of Peers, an unexpected controversie rose betwixt both Houses about their Jurisdiction, for the Lords, according to their undoubted Right, having taken cognizance of a Cause between Dr. Shirley, and Sir John Fagg, a Member of the Commons, it was thought some crafty Parliament men, to prevent the Test from coming among them, blew up the Coals to such a degree that there was no quenching them, so that the converse betwixt the two Houses growing impracticable, the Parliament was prorogued till Oct. 13. following. The House of Commons in this Session had Voted to raise 300000 L. to build Ships, and drawn up a Bill for appropriating 400000 out of the Customs yearly, for the use of the Navy, as by Law it ought, but this was so small a Sum that it was a sufficient cause of proroguing them, which the Quarrel between them made the

the more plausible. This year King Philip, one of the Indian Sagamores, fell upon the English in New-England, killed several, plundered and burnt their Houses and Plantations, but at length they were defeated and utterly suppress'd. In May, arrived in England the P. of Newbourg, and was nobly treated by the University of Oxford. In July the K. took a Sea progress from Gravesend through the Downs to Portsmouth, and the Isle of Wight, and returned back again by Water. The French were beaten by the Confederates, and the Great Marshal Turenne slain.

During the Interval of Parliament, Jealousies were fomented throughout the Nation, and they continued to inculcate forty one in Court and Country. Those that refused to give whatever Money was demanded, were the only Recusants, and all that asserted the Liberties of the Nation were branded for Presbyterians. Octob. 13. the Parliament met, and the King now asked not only a Supply for building Ships, as formerly, but further to take off the Anticipation from his Revenue. The House of Commons revived some former Bills, and set on foot others to remedy present, or prevent future mischiefs, as the Bill for Habeas Corpus; that against sending men prisoners beyond Sea. Another against raising Money without consent of Parliament. Another against Papists sitting in either House. One for the speedier convicting of Papists. Another for recalling the Kings Subjects out of the French Service: And as to the Supply, they proceeded as formerly, for raising 300000 £. and for appropriating the Customs to the use of the Navy. And in the Lords House there was a good disposition towards things of publick Interest, but 300000 £. was so insipid a Sum to those who had been continually regaled with Millions, that there wanted only an opportunity to be rid of them, which was soon at hand, by reviving the former quarrel between the

the Lords and Commons, which was quickly raised to a greater ardor than ever, insomuch that the Lords were consulting to draw up an Address to His Majesty to dissolve the Parliament, but the King supposing the House of Commons might at some other time be of use to him, chose only to prorogue the Parliament, and the blame of it was laid upon those in both Houses, (but especially in the Lords) who had most vigorously opposed the French and Popish Interest, but wherever the fault was, a greater was committed in proroguing the Parliament from Nov. 22. 1675. to Feb. 15. 1676. about fifteen months, there being no Record of any such thing done since the being of Parliaments in England, and the whole reason of the Law, no less than the practice and custom holding the contrary.

This vast space betwixt the meetings of Parliament, may be filled up with the contrivances of our Councillors both abroad and at home, and likewise with the accidents that happened during that time. Aug. 10. 1675. An hurricane happened at Barbadoes, which destroyed at Sea eight Ships and Ketches, and at Land 300 Houses, and above 200 persons. Sept.

3. The whole Town of Northampton was very near burnt to the ground. Dec. 29. A proclamation was published for suppressing Coffee-houses, upon information that some had openly discoursed against the Court Intrigues, and some Ladies there, but ten days after, upon consideration of the loss which would arise in the Kings Revenue, and the power of a proclamation to suppress a publick Employment, it was again recalled and left as before. April 28. 1676. the French took Conde in Flanders. May 9. Monsieur Courtin arrived in Quality of Ambassador Extraordinary from the French King. May 26. The French took Buchain. June 2. They gained a Naval Victory over the Spanish and Dutch Fleets at Palermo. Sept. 9. Philipsburg was surrendered to the Imperialists.

Imperialists. As to our political managements, several new Judges were made, their Patents running only to continue during pleasure ; and the French King, as a mark of his displeasure, and to humble the English Nation, let loose his Privateers among our Merchant men, so that there was no security of Commerce and Navigation, notwithstanding the publick Amity betwixt the two Crowns, but at Sea they murdered, plundered, made prize and confiscated those they met with : Their Privateers lay before the mouth of our Rivers, hovered all along the Coast, took our Ships in our very Port, so that we were in a manner blocked up by Sea, and if any made application at his Sovereign Port for Justice, they were insolently baffled, except some few, that by our English Agents Interest, who made a second prize of them, were redeemed upon easier composition. In this manner it continued from 1674. to 1676. without remedy, even till the Parliaments sitting, so that some doubted whether our Councillors were not Complices also in the matter, and found their account in it : And though the French made these intolerable and barbarous Pyracies and Depredations upon the English, yet they were more diligently than ever supplied with Recruits, and thosethat would go voluntarily into the French Service were encouraged ; others that would not were pressed, imprisoned, and carried over by main force and constraint, even as the Parliament here was ready to sit down, notwithstanding all their former applications to the contrary : And the Kings Magazines were daily emptied to furnish the French with all sorts of Ammunition, of which the following Note contains but a small parcel in comparison of what were daily conveyed away under colour of being sent to Jersey and other places.

A short account of some Ammunition, &c. exported from the Port of London to France, from

June 1675. to June 1677. Granadoes without number, Ship'd off under the colour of unwrought Iron: Lead Shot 21 Tun: Gunpowder 7134 Barrels: Iron Shot 18 Tun, 1900 weight: Iron Ordinance 44, quantity 292 Tuns, 500 weight: Carriages, Bandaliers, Pikes, &c uncertain. Thus was the French King to be gratified for undoing us by Sea, with contributing all that we could rap and rend of Men or Ammunition, to make him the more formidable against us.

Feb. 15. 1676. was now come, and that very day the French King (to keep Tune with us) appointed for his march in person into Flanders, as thinking it a becoming Gallantry to conquer and take in the rest of Flanders, our Natural Outwork and Frontier, in the very face of the King of England, and his Parliament. The Parliament being met, the King demanded a Supply for building Ships, and the continuance of the Additional Excise upon Beer and Ale, recommending earnestly a good correspondence between the two Houses, representing the last differences as the reason of so long a prorogation. The first thing both Houses fell upon was, Whether the Parliament were by this Unpresidented prorogation dissolved; the Commons did not long insist upon it, but Voted, That the Grand Committees should sit, which included the Legality thereof: But in the House of Lords, the Duke of Buckingham argued from all the Laws of Parliament, that this prorogation was Null, and this Parliament consequently dissolved, offering to maintain it to all the Judges, but they were not admitted to give their opinions: On the contrary it was moved, that the Duke might be called to the Bar, but he being seconded by the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Earl of Salisbury, and the Lord Wharton, continued a fixed debate for five or six hours, and a length it was carried that the Debate should be laid aside, and the next morning those four Lords were ordered

ordered to be committed to the Tower, under the Notion of contempt, during His Majesties and the Houses pleasure, for refusing to recant their opinion, and ask pardon of the King and House of Lords.

Thus was this Loyal Parliament continued, and began to enter upon publick business, though the Nation would have been glad of a new choice; yet divers reflecting Speeches a while after passed among the Commons, for being once upon a debate about Libels and Pamphlets, first one Member of them stood up, and in the face of the House said, ' That it was affirmed to him by a person that might be spoke with, that there were among them 30, 40, 50, nay, God knows how many of them Outlawed. Another thereupon rose and told them, ' It was reported too, that divers of the Members were Papists. A third, ' That a multitude of them were bribed, and Pensioners; and yet all this was patiently hush'd up and digested by the House, as being of that Nature not to admit of a Reply. Yet it was generally believed there was too much truth in it, especially in the last, for as it appeared afterwards, a Majority of the Members of Parliament were corrupted by pensions, which were liberally bestowed upon such as were of depraved principles, by which means every thing, during some time, brought bare-faced into the House of Commons (and afterwards by fide winds, for the Kings particular designs) passed currantly; so that now the fear of a Dissolution, and thereby of being deprived of their subsistence, caused them to pass the Bill for six hundred thousand pounds towards building of Ships, without appropriating the Customs, and another for continuing the Additional Excise upon Beer and Ale for three years longer, without any difficulty, and all their former Grievances sunk into a Bill of Habeas Corpus: But the Lords presented them with two Bills of a very good Name, yet of a strange Nature, one intituled,

An Act for securing the Protestant Religion, by Educating the Children of the Royal Family, and providing for the continuance of a Protestant Clergy: The other for the more effectual conviction and prosecution of Popish Recusants, wherein were some clauses so offensive to the Commons, as being dangerous to the Protestant Interest, that they rejected the first without any mans speaking a word for it, and the other was laid aside, and never revived again.

Hence forward another Scene opens; the House of Commons, through the whole remainder of this Session, falling in with some unanimity and great vigor against the French Counsels: And March 6. 1676. the House being resolved into a Grand Committee to consider of Grievances, they Resolved, That an Address be presented to His Majesty to represent the danger of the power of France, and to desire that His Majesty, by such Alliances as he shall think fit, do secure his Kingdoms, and quiet the fears of his people, and for preservation of the Spanish Netherlands. To which the King answered, ' That he was of the opinion of his two Houses of Parliament, that the preservation of Flanders was of great consequence, and that he would use all means in his power for the safety of his Kingdoms.

This answer was not judged satisfactory, and therefore a second Address was presented, wherein with earnest and repeated desires, They implore the King to take timely care to prevent those dangers that may arise to these Kingdoms by the great power of the French King, and the progress he daily makes in those Netherlands, and other places: And that he would not defer to enter into such Alliances as may obtain those ends, and if it should happen that in persuasion of them, he should be ingaged in a War with the French King, they assure him they will be always ready to assist him, with such Aids and Supplies, as by the Divine Assistance, may enable him to prosecute the same with success.

This Address was presented March 30. 1677. and till April 11. they received no answer, but the News being then come of the taking both of Valenciennes and St. Omers, with the defeat of the States Forces at Mount Castall, so that now there was no further danger of preventing, or interrupting the Successes of the French King this Campaign, at last the following answer was brought to the House by the Secretary of State: ' That His Majesty having considered their last Address, and finding some late alteration in Affairs abroad, thinks it necessary to put them in mind that the only way to prevent the dangers which may arise to these Kingdoms, must be by putting His Majesty into a condition to make such fit preparations, as may enable him to do what may be most for the security of them. And the Court party explained this, that the King must have Money, whereupon in a third Address, they tell him, ' That for the present they had provided a security of 200000 £. upon the Additional Excise, and that they should not be wanting hereafter, to furnish him with such large proportions of Supplies as might enable him, by the help of Almighty God, to maintain the Alliances he should enter into against all opposition whatsoever. To this the King replies, ' That the Fund for 200000 £. was given him for other uses, and he must tell them plainly, that without the Sum of six hundred thousand pounds, he could not speak or act what should answer the ends of their several Addresses, without exposing the Kingdom to much greater danger. To this it was answered in the House of Commons, ' That the 200000 £. which they had provided for present use, was as much as could be laid out till their meeting again, though the King had 600000 £. ready told upon the Table.

But now the Money-Bill being passed, and Cambrai being also surrendered to the French, whereby

the Conquest of this Campaign was perfected, as it had been projected, and the Money for further preparations having been asked only to gain a pretence for refusing their Addresses, the Parliament was adjourned from April 16. to May 21. Immediately upon this Recess there landed the Duke of Crequi, the Archbishop of Rheims, Monsieur Bovillon, and a Train of three or four hundred persons of all Qualities, so that the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of France, and so many of their Commons meeting the King at New-market, it looked like another Parliament, and that the English had been adjourned in order to their better reception. They continued here till the return of the English Parliament, and were then dismissed home with all demonstrations of mutual affection.

May 21. 1677. the Parliament met, and the House of Commons proceeded upon Alliances, and it was intimated that an Alliance with Holland was most expedient, since alone we could not withstand the French, but being joined together we might. The Courtiers still insisted upon the 600000 l. without which the King could not speak nor act, and would have persuaded the House to have given the Money before the King had declared against France, but they had great reason to suspect his Intentions, and therefore would part with none, but Voted, *That* *an Address be made to the King to enter into a League Offensive and Defensive with the States General of the United Provinces, and to make such other Alliances with other of the Confederates, as he should think fit, against the growth and power of the French King, and that the House cannot comply with His Majesties Speech till such Alliances be entered into; after which they assure him of speedy and cheerful Supplies for supporting the same.* In answer to this, May 28. the King came to the House, and in a severe Speech tells them, *That*

That they medled with such things in their Address as intrenched upon the undoubted Rights of the Crown, and had dangerously invaded his Prerogative of making Peace and War, not only desiring him to enter into such Leagues as may be for the safety of the Kingdom, but to tell him what Leagues they might be, as if it were rather by their leave than Request: That he would not have this fundamental Power invaded, which would cause other Princes and States to believe that the Sovereignty of England rests not in the Crown, and himself to signify no more than the empty sound of a King, and that no condition should make him depart from, or lessen so essential a part of the Monarchy, and therefore he could by no means approve of their Address. The House were greatly appalled at this Speech, but more when the Speaker stepping out of the Chair without any Question put, of his own motion, pronounced the House adjourned to July 16. following, which was judged a violation of the Privileges and Constitution of the House of Commons.

In the mean time the four Lords continued in the Tower, looking to be free by prorogation, but these frequent adjournments prevented them, so that the D. of Buckingham, the Earl of Salisbury, and the Lord Wharton, seeing no hope of their Liberty, petitioned the King and were inlarged, but the Earl of Shafesbury having addressed in vain for the Kings favour, brought himself by an Habeas Corpus to the Kings Bench, but was refused to be Bailed by the judges. The Parliament were adjourned again from July to Dec. 3. and from thence to Jan. 15. following, which did not seem so strange (because often done before) as unfortunate, that the French King should have still so much further time allowed him to compleat his design upon Flanders, before the Parliament could have the least opportunity to interpose by

their Councils for preventing the same. These and many other Instances, of the ill designs of the Councillors in those times, might be given; as the Kings abandoning his own Nephew, His Highness the Prince of Orange, in compliance with his and our Nations Enemies. The further particulars of the French Depradations and Cruelties openly tolerated: The notorious Treacheries and Insolencies in the Kings affairs: The constant Irregularities and Injustice in the Courts of Justice every Term: The scrutiny all over the Kingdom for men of Arbitrary principles, to be promoted in all publick Commissions and Employments, and the disgracing and displacing all that were honest and faithful in their Trust and Offices: The defection of considerable persons, both Male and Female, to the Popish Religion: The State of the Kingdom of Ireland, and the tendency of all affairs and counsel at that time to a Revolution, and by the great civility and foresight of his Holiness Cardinal Howard (like Cardinal Pool of old) was prepared to give us Absolution, Benediction, and receive us into Apostolical Obedience. These things would require a Volume, and our wonderful Deliverance from all these cursed Machinations deserves our utmost praises to God, and our greatest thanks and acknowledgments to our Great Deliverer.

But to proceed: In November 1677. his Highness the Prince of Orange arrived at White-hall, and soon after Marred her Highness the Lady Mary (now our most Gracious Queen) to the great joy of all good Protestants, and for which the Parliament, January 31. following, presented an Addreſs of thanks to the King, for the great care he had exprest of the preservation and encouragement of the Protestant Religion, by concluding a Marriage with the Lady Mary His Majesties Niece, and the Prince of Orange, being a Prince professing the same Religion with us, and engaged in Arms for the common Cause of Christendom; for

for the promoting of which, they in all humility, and with the fullest Zeal of the Kings honour, and the safety of his people, beseech His Majesty not to admit of any Treaty of Peace, whereby the French King shall be left in possession of any larger Dominions and Territories, or of any greater power, than what he attained by the Pyrenean Treaty ; and that neither the King nor his Allies, do lay down their Arms, or depart from their Alliances, till that King be reduced at least to that Treaty, and that it may be mutually agreed, that neither our selves, nor any of the Confederates, shall hold any commerce or Trade with France, but that all the Goods and Commodities of France be destroyed : And that in prosecution of the War against France, they would give such ready assistances and supports, as may by the blessing of God, bring the said War to an happy conclusion.

It is very well known that the Government of France was formerly the same with the Constitution of England, but at length their Parliament was prevailed upon to give power to the King, That in the Intervals of Parliament he should have power to raise money, by Virtue of which power the day became his own, and the people his Vassals, for the free Estates of Parliament never met afterwards. The like attempt was made even in this very Parliament, by actually bringing into the House of Commons a Bill, which was once Read, that allowed power to the King to raise what money he pleased upon Extraordinary occasions ; but a great Statesman was awakened by an intimate Friend of his, who understanding what was doing in the House, told him, That he came to his Honour by the Gown, not by the Sword, and if that Bill passed, desired him to consider what his own, or all the Lawyers Gowns in England, were worth ; so that by his means, with the assistance of others, this Bill, though once read,

(for giving the King power to raise money at pleasure) was by providence dropt so far, as it only dwindled into a Bill of 75000*l.* not exceeding a months Tax.

This fine project proving abortive, there remained still a necessity of having recourse to Parliaments for Supplies, which the Court now wanting, they pretended to be in earnest for a War with France, and all the talk was of Alliances with Holland, and they began to speak hardly and revile the French King; and to procure a belief of their real intentions, a Book, under the Title of *Christianissimus Christianandus*, writ by Dr. March. Needham, was printed, rendering the French King so scandalous in all his ways, actions and designs, as it cannot be thought would have been published without having first that Kings leave for the same: But the afořementioned Address somewhat disturbed them; whereby they perceived that the House of Commons smelt out their underhand Intrigues with France, though they publickly talked of War and Alliances, and therefore when they found no money was like to come, they resolve to discountenance the Address, and an Express is sent to France with an account of it, to force that King in earnest to furnish them with that money which he had only faintly promised, or else to threaten him that the King must comply with his Parliament, which would be much against his Interest. In the mean time they demand a million of money of the Commons, to inable the King to speak and act, pretending the King had made Alliances with Holland, but the House doubted it, being sensible that notwithstanding these pretended Alliances, against France, yet secret Devices, and Popish Councils, were so far prevalent, that nothing was done but with the French Kings leave: However, to take away from the King all pretences of complaint, they concluded a Supply should be given, and the House agreed upon another Poll, and

and also mentioned more money to be raised afterwards upon the new buildings about London, but doubting least the money should be mispent (as millions had been before, of which they could never get an account) they resolved to tack the money to a Bill of prohibition of all French Commodities whatsoever, so that if the money were lost, yet the prohibition would be worth the Sum they gave.

Yet in all this talk of War and Alliances, the Papists were more busie than ever, the Duke of York sending and receiving constant messages from Rome and France, and this Sham War being a good pretence for raising Forces, they did not doubt but their work would be done, having money given them by the Parliament to pay them, and if they were once raised the Pope and Cardinal Norfolk had ingaged to find money to pay them, if the Parliament should happen to discover their designs, and to give no more. The new Army was now raising, and care was taken there should be no Officers but what were fit for the work, four parts in five being either downright Papists, though they swallowed the Test, or else resolved so to be upon the least intimation; and above 100 Commissions by the Duke of Yorks recommending were Signed to Irish Papists to raise Forces, notwithstanding the late Act, so that at length there was scarce one publick Officer for Sea or Land, but what was his Creature, nor scarce a Bishop, Judge, Justice, or any Officer in England, but what was of his promotion; nay, his very Dutches must have one of the new Regiments, which some called the Italian Regiment.

And Duke Lauderdale at the same time going into Scotland, procures the Council to disarm divers Shires in the Low Lands, being the prime of the Kingdom, and when that would not sufficiently exasperate the people, he gets an Order to Arm the Highlanders, who are a kind of barbarous Papists, and un-

der pretence of keeping the Peace, had Commission to live upon Free Quarter, to the destruction of the poor Inhabitants, divers months together, and all was to procure a Rebellion there at any rate. Ireland was also in as ill a posture, for whosoever was Lord Lieutenant, Boyle the Archbishop there is Gouvernour, a zealous man for the Catholick Cause, insomuch that the Kingdom was in a condition to be over-run and ruined at pleasure.

The Court now thought things looked very promising, for if they could but perswade the Confederates into a Peace, with an English new raised Army in their hand, and money to boot, all would do well, and the French King need not to sue for a Peace to compleat his Conquests, since they would procure it to his hand, provided he would pay the three hundred thousand pounds a year, which he had promised. But the Commons having notice of these Intrigues, began to be very cautious of their Supplies, though they saw an absolute necessity of War with France, for one of the Members had got the great Copy of the private Treaty with France at that time when the Court party cried out a War, and that they were sure it would be, for it was in effect already, the Gentleman telling the House he knew there was a designed cheat, for he could produce the very Articles of Treaty betwixt France and us. This put the House into a great consternation, and some forward men to the blush, and thereupon they made an Address to the King, ' That for the satisfying the minds of his Subjects, who were much disquieted with the apprehensions of the danger arising to this Kingdom from the growth and power of the French King; and for the encouragement of the Princes and States confederate against him, His Majesty would please immediately to declare and proclaim, and enter into an actual War with the French King, for the prosecution whereof they had already passed a Bill.

‘ of Supply which only wanted the Royal Assent, desiring him to rest constantly assured, that they would from time to time proceed to stand by, and Aid His Majesty with such plentiful Supplies and Assurances as he should stand in need of; and because his Mediation had not produced the good effects intended, that he would call his Ambassadors from Nimiguen and France, and to cause the French Ambassadors to depart from hence, That being discharged from acting as a Mediator, His Majesty might enter into the War to no other end than that the French King may be so reduced as to be no longer terrible to his Subjects, and Christendom may be restored to that Peace as it may not be in the power of that King to disturb. After this Address there was intimation that the Poll Bill had been ready for some days, and yet no notice given when the King would come and Pass it, and it was thought strange that such a Bill should stick a hand, but at last it was accepted, and the dreadful clause of prohibiting all French Goods, &c. with it, and the Title was, For an Actual War with the French King, and to be appropriated to no other use; but yet the Commons found, that whatever was pretended, nothing less was intended than a War against France, and thereupon, May 4. 1678. they Voted, ‘ That the King be desired to enter into present Alliances and Confederations with the Emperor of Germany, the K. of Spain, and the United Provinces, for the vigorous carrying on the War against the French King, and to prohibit all commerce with France, and to invite all other Princes and States into the Confederation, and that no Truce nor Peace be made with him without general consent therein. To this the King sent an answer, ‘ That he was much surprized both with the matter and form of these Votes, but if he had exception to neither, yet having asked the Advice of both Houses, he does not think

think fit to give any answer to any thing of that nature till he had the concurrent advice of both Houses. In the mean time the Duke of York and his party, plyed both Rome and the Popes Nuncio at Nimeguen, by all means to incite the Catholick Princes to hearken to the French Terms of Peace at any rate; and the French King was at the same time assisted with Men and Ammunition underhand, several thousands of Barrels of Powder, and other Warlike provisions, being secretly Ship'd off under colour of supplying the Isle of Wight, and other places, which was well known to the Parliament. And the Commons made another Address, May 10. declaring the imminent dangers that the Kingdom lay under, by the Clandestine practices of ill men, which might have been prevented had His Majesty hearken'd to their Advices, which if he relied upon, he should never want Supplies whatever ill men suggested, and desired that he would remove the D. of Lauderdale from his presence and Council. After which they passed a Vote, ' That no Money should be raised till they were secured from Popery and Arbitrary Government; whereupon they were prorogued till May 28. and in that time it was publickly owned by the Court, that a Cessation with France was concluded, for which some Money was got from that King, but not so much as was privately promised, whereupon he was threatened, yet as far as it was gone to a Peace, if he did not perform his word of giving 300000 L. a year, for three years, all should be undone again the next Parliament: But the French King gave them fine words, and the Ambassador here laugh'd in his Sleeve, for indeed they were fed very sparingly with money, but they were told if they did not do and say to the Parliament what King Lewis directed, he would discover them and their correspondencies in betraying the Nation, and publish all their secret Intrigues, especially the Treaty at Dover, since published in France.

And

And now our Ambassadors at Nimiguen had order to clog the Peace that was near concluding, till the Court party could get more Money from the Parliament, but the Dutch having been baffled all this while in hopes of our assistance, and declaring War against France, and seeing the Jesuits Foot in the whole matter, they posted on the Peace with all speed, and slighted our Plenipotentiaries, one of whom proposed that one Article of the Treaty should be, ' That the States should allow the Exercise of the Popish Religion throughout their Territories; which the Dutch would not yield to, and so it was dropt, but it was wondred at even by the Catholick Ambassadors themselves, that our Mediators should be so zealous for the Popish cause, when we our selves professed the Protestant Religion in shew.

And now it being no longer to be concealed that there was a Peace, at the opening of the Parliament May 23. the King told them, ' That since he had asked their Advice towards the saving of Flanders, the Conjunctions abroad had driven things violently toward a Peace, and where they would end he could not tell, but that he was resolved to save Flanders either by War or Peace, but he thought that being Armed was as necessary to make Peace as War, and therefore if he were able, he would keep up his Army and Navy at Sea for some time, till a Peace was concluded, if that must be, but because that would depend upon their Supplies, he left it to them to consider whether to provide for their Subsistence so long, or for their Disbanding sooner; That he expected the renewing of the Act for the Additional Excise, and the making up the loss in the clause of the Poll Bill, and assures them that whatever ill men suggest, he had never any designs but for the good of the publick.

By this, the Parliament were confirmed in what they before strongly suspected, that notwithstanding

their Addresses, and the preparations that had been made, and the assurances given, and the Army sent over to Ostend, yet all was but a pretence to get Money ; and believing that the continuing of an Army without probability of a War, was the way to destroy the Nation in a little time, and not to preserve it, since they would soon make work rather than be idle, and that for them to give more Money when half of that already raised was not spent, nor they had no account of it, was to undo themselves and do the King no good : Therefore the Commons resolved, ' That the House taking into consideration the charge and burden of the Nation by the Army, are of opinion, That if the King will enter into a War with France, they will be ready to support and assist him, or else will provide for the speedy Disbanding the Army. To which the King returned this mild answer, ' That the Most Christian King had made such offers for a Cessation till July 27. as he verily believes will end in a General Peace, yet since it is not certain, he doth by no means think it prudent to dismiss either Fleet or Army before that time, and that in the mean while desires provision may be made for their Subsistence, by giving the 200000 £. they promised to repay. By this Message the House found the Work was done, and well knowing why the Army was raised, and that they were never intended to be Disbanded from the first hour of their raising, they began to suspect it would not be easie to lay them, and doubting the Court were to have Money from France, they resolve to raise Money to Disband them with all speed, and to continue none in pay longer than the Money could be raised, so that they Voted a Land Tax of 200000 £. for their Disbanding by the latter end of August at farthest. The King by another Message, still earnestly desires their continuance, but the Parliament thinking they had continued too long already, passed the Bill for their Disbanding.

About this time the French King suddenly block'd up Mons in Flanders, expecting to carry it before the Peace took place, but the Dutch and Spaniards, with the assistance of the English Forces, under the Earl of Offory, were resolved, if possible, to succour it ; to prevent which, the French King assaulted it Night and Day, stopping up the ways to any relief, the Duke of Luxemburg having a vast Army with him, even the very flower of France, yet His Highness the Prince of Orange, at the earnest Request of the Spaniards, resolved to attempt its relief, and notwithstanding the difficulty, as if there had been a new courage put into the Spaniards and Dutch, and a fatality on the French to blemish all their former Enter-prizes. To give them a parting blow, the Prince with the English then with him, pressed upon the French so gallantly, that they forced them out of their advantagious Posts, and made them quit the Field ; and so Mons was succoured, though with the loss of many on both sides, but the French were clearly beaten and retired in great disorder in the Night, which was so great a blemish to the French Kings Glory, and struck such a fear into his Army, that it was thought if the Dutch and Spaniards had followed the blow they had quite turned the Scale, and ruined his whole design. Both our Court and the French King, were amazed at this action, giving out, That it was a hair-brain'd rash act done by the Prince and Duke of Monmouth, (who just came in as they began the Fight) not like Souldiers but Mad-men. This happened Aug. 14. 1678. and however the French King dissembled the matter, he sent several Messages to call us to account for suffering our Forces to put such an abuse and affront upon him, and permitting the Duke of Monmouth and the English to fall upon him contrary to the private agree-
ment, which made our Court very uneasy, doubt-
ing that he would so resent it as to stop his hand
from

from sending Money : Hereupon they protest their Innocency, and that they had not the least thoughts of it, and the D. of York posts away Messengers to France to excuse it, promising to prevent such ungentile proceedings for the future, assuring that King that the Duke of Monmouth went not over by his consent, nor had any business there, but was only led by curiosity, and that he would have little thanks upon his return ; yet instead of hindring, this forwarded the Peace, which was soon after concluded. Whereupon, the Spaniard being weary of our Forces, desired they might be recalled, well knowing by whose means this Peace was forced upon them, so that they now returned in Companies and Regiments, and were Quartered round about the Country, to the great trouble of the Inhabitants ; and indeed, Douglasses and Dunbartons Regiments, and others, who were generally Papists as well as their Officers, became a terror to the people ; who were in daily hope of their being Disbanded, but this was not designed, for though Money was raised by the Parliament for that purpose, and a fixed time set, yet the King resolved that it should be applied to maintain them, to keep the French in awe, as was then alledged : And now all things being in readines, and Popish Officers and Souldiers, Popish Councils, and Popish Priests being all fixed, and the French King coming off more a Conqueror by Peace than he could expect by War, it was strongly debated in a close Cabal at White-Hall, whether they should try to get Money of the Parliament, or from the French King, from whom we had merited so much ; some were for getting Supplies of both, others to borrow of the City, and if denied to force it from them : but at length it was concluded the Parliament should be tryed once more. At another time the King, the Duke of York, and Lord Treasurer Clifford, were at a certain House in a private Room, where one of the Commissioners

Commissioners of the Excise of England, and of the Revenue of Ireland came, and being a person that frequently accommodated the King with Money, was wont to gain access at all hours, and in presumption of this liberty was at the Door ready to enter the Room, but hearing the King speak with much earnestness, he hearkened with some attention, but could hear only some broken and imperfect Expressions : The Duke also spoke so low that he could not understand him, but Clifford was loud as in publick, answering the King in an audible manner in these words, ‘ Sir, if you are drove off upon fears you will never be safe, the work will do if you declare your self with Resolution, there is enow to stand by you. The King replied, ‘ This Name Popery will never be swallowed by the people ; upon which the King started off his seat, and said, ‘ Some body is at the Door ; whereupon Clifford hastily opened it, and without speaking, fell furiously upon the Gentleman, dragging him to a pair of Stairs, from whence he kick’d him down. Soon after this person died, which was not improbably imputed to that misfortune.

But on a sudden a dark cloud arises in the very midst of their expectations, for in August 1678. the most secret Devices that had been managed by the Papists for a long time, came in some measure to be discovered by Dr. Titus Oates, who had been Trained up amongst them beyond Sea, though at first educated in St. Johns Colledge in Oxford, where he took his Degree, and afterward proceeded Doctor of Divinity at Salamanca in Spain, and after which he was Chaplain to the Duke of Norfoik, where he heard some whisperings among the Popish Priests that there was a great design in hand, but could not learn the particulars ; at length being admitted into the Order of Jesuits, he managed their affairs with so much satisfaction, that in a short time they made him privy

to

to their most secret consultations, and he keeping short Notes of all things of concernment, was thereby in a capacity to give an account of so many particulars as he afterward discovered, and which had the happiness to be confirmed by other circumstances and evidence, and have not the least contradicted one another, nor those other papers which have been found elsewhere, nor differed from the informations that were afterward given in by Bedloe, Dugdale, Jenison, Mowbray, Baldron and others. For some of the zealous Priests and Jesuits, thinking the time long for re-establishing their Religion, grew impatient to be in possession, and drove on a secret Plot among themselves to remove the King into another World whilst the Army was in being, but yet they contrived to lay the Odium of it upon the Dissenting party, for about August, Mr. Claypool, who was Son-in-Law to Oliver Cromwel, was taken and accused before the Secretary of State, for designing to seize the King as he was to go to New-market ; Mr. Cleypool knowing nothing of the matter, desired to see his Accusers, but that was denied him, and he was sent to the Tower in a great Rage, and committed close Prisoner. This damnable design being so prosperous, the Jesuits next propounded several ways and means to dispatch the King, and divers were propounded whilst he was at Windsor, which Dr. Oates being privy to, resolved to discover out of hand, and by the means of Dr. Tongue he got opportunity to inform the King thereof, who being acquainted with one Mr. Christopher Kirby, an honest Gentleman, Tongue shewed him 43 Articles drawn up in Writing, desiring him that without making any other person acquainted therewith, he would discover the same to the King ; Mr. Kirby undertook it, and the next morning in St. James's Park he informed the King, ' That his
Enemies had a design against his Life, and humbly
beseeched him to use all caution, since he did not
know

know but His Majesty might be in danger in that very Walk. How can that be, says the King ? Kirby replied, That it might be by being shot at ; and added, That Grove and Pickering watched an opportunity to kill him, and that another person was hired to poison him. Dr. Oates, after this, applies himself to Sir Edmund-bury Godfrey, Justice of Peace of Middlesex, and made Oath of the reality of the Conspiracy ; Sir Edmund was always looked upon to be a very fair man, and a zealous Churchman, yet carried fair to all, and the Papists had a good opinion of him as well as others : He having received this Information, thought fit to communicate it to the Council, and Sept. 28. 1678. Dr. Oates was sent for to White-Hall, where he demonstrated the Plot so clearly against all opposition, and gave so many reasons for what he said, that Warrants were granted for seizing some Popish Priests that very Night, and Edward Coleman who was Secretary to the Dukes of York ; and the Factor in all this secret part of the Plot being accused, had his House search'd, and several Papers and Letters were taken, though the chief were conveyed away before, for which he was Summoned before the Council, Oct. 1. where he carried himself very insolently, telling them, That in accusing him they shot at his Royal Highness, but these papers being read before him, the Council found enough in them to commit him to Newgate. Because Sir Edmund-bury Godfrey had taken the Depositions of Dr. Oates, (which was no more than any Justice of Peace by his Office was bound to do) the Conspirators were so enraged that they resolved to cut him off, to deter others from concerning themselves in the Plot, of which their resolution notice was sent to Coleman in Newgate to support his spirits. It is not certainly discovered how many there were in all who conspired his death, but those that are known were Fa. Kelley and Fa. Girald, two Irish Priests, Rob. Green Cushion man to the Queen as Chappel, Lawr. Hill Servant to Dr. Godden Treasurer of the Chappel, H. Berry who

who was Porter of Somerset - house, and Miles Prance a Goldsmith in Covent-Garden, these were actually present at the Murder. There were another party to have done it but did not, which were four Jesuits, and William Bedloe, Philip Vernatti, who fled away, and some other Popish Priests, contrived it, and it is thought they drew in Green, Berry, and Hill, telling them, ' That Sir Edmundbury was a bitter persecutor of Catholicks, and a particular Enemy to Her Majesties Servants, and that he had lately examined people against them, and had got Depositions to fix base Crimes and Scandals on their Religion, and that the Catholicks would be ruined unless he were taken off, and therefore it was necessary for the Glory of God, and good of the Church, that it should be effected, and that there would be a good reward given them for it. Having resolved upon his Death, Saturday Oct. 12. 1678. Hill went to Sir Edmundbury Godfreys House in the morning, but what he said to him is not known, and then taking his leave went to Girald and Green, who dog'd him all day till about Nine a Clock at Night, and then Hill came in haste to the rest of the Murderers who waited at the Water gate at Somerset-House, and told them Sir Edmundbury was coming, and they must preteod a Quarrel, and just as he was passing by the Gate, Hill who knew him, steps out and intreats him for Gods sake to come in, for there were two men Quarrelling, and he was afraid there would be Blood shed ; he refuseth at first, but the other being importunate he consented, and Hill entred the Gate first, and after him Sir Edmund, Girald and Green followed just behind : As soon as they were in Prance watched the Water-gate, and Sir Edmund going forward, Hill suddenly threw a twisted Handkerchief, or Crevat, about his Neck, and presently all four pulled him down, and throttled him without noise, and then threw him behnd the Rails, giving him

him many violent punches on the breast with their Knees, and Green with all his force wrung his Neck almost round. Having committed this horrid Murder, they removed the Body into Dr Goddins Lodgings, and on Wednesday Night about Twelve a Clock, they carried it toward Hampstead, about two miles out of Town, and laid it at a place called Primrose-Hill, though it is affirmed the ancient Name was Green, Bury, Hill, comprehending the Names of the three Murderers, having thrust Sir Edmund Burys own Sword through his Body and left it in, laying his Gloves and Scabbard at a little distance, that it might be supposed he had Murdered himself. The Death of this worthy Gentleman caused great consternation among the people, and a Proclamation was published promising five hundred pounds to the discoverer of the Murderers. The Jury brought it in a barbarous Murder, and he was buried with so great a number of people, most of them with Swords, as scarce had ever been seen at one Gentleman's Funeral before.

Oct. 21. The Parliament met, and the King told them, ' That he had been obliged for the preservation of Flanders to keep up his Army, and to pay them with the money given for their Disbanding, and had been money out of Purse besides, which he expected they should Supply : That he was informed of a design against his Person by the Jesuits, but would forbear any opinion, lest he should speak too much or too little, and would take care of them and others too, who had been tampering and contriving in an high degree, with Forreigners, to introduce Popery amongst us. They were further told, ' That our dangers were great, and if they did not stand up and rescue His Majesty from them, we were all in danger to be lost. The Parliament admired to hear this, since they were told very lately, ' That we were so well fenced and hedged against Popery,

Popery, as that there was not the least room for jealousies and fears amongst us: And though they were angry at the violation of the Disbanding Act, yet they resolved first to proceed upon the Plot, and the discovery of the Murder of Sir Edmund-bury Godfrey, and so much did already appear, that the House of Commons Voted it to be a damnable and hellish Plot to root out and destroy our Religion and Government, and very privately got the Lord Chief Justice Scroggs to sign Warrants for the apprehending of five Popish Lords, that is, The Earl of Powis, Lord Stafford, Lord Arundel of Warder, Lord Peters, and Lord Bellafis, who were committed to the Tower. The Nation being in confusion, and expecting every day to have their Throats cut by the Papists, both Houses passed a Bill for raising the Militia throughout the Kingdom for so many days, but the King absolutely refused to pass it, as intrenching upon his Prerogative, which put a great damp upon the people, especially being surrounded with an illegal Army. By this time a full discovery comes in of the Murder of Sir Edmund-bury Godfrey by William Bedloe, who was privy to the whole Intrigue as well as to the plot, so that Dr. Oates his Evidence was now corroborated. Oct. 22. Oates is examined before the House of Commons, and the next day before the Lords, where he confirmed all that he had already deposited about the Plot. Sir George Wakeman is Summoned before the King and Council; Dr. Fogart, Ireland, Fenwick, Grove, Pickerin, Johnson, and Smith, are committed for High Treason. Richard Langhorn, Sir Edward Petre, were likewise committed to Newgate. Nov. 21. William Staley, a violent Papist, in Covent-Garden, was Tryed for High Treason at the Kings Bench Bar, Westminster, who was very inveterate against the King because he found his Trade decay, his chief dealings being with Papists who upon the discovery of the Plot called in their Money

Money faster than he desired : He being in company with one Fromante his friend, Fromante said, ' That the K. of England was a great Tormentor of the people of God ; upon which Staley in a great passion replied, ' That the King was a great Heretick ; there's the heart, and here's the hand, I would kill him my self. This being proved fully upon him, he was condemned and executed. Nov. 27. Edward Coleman was Tryed in the same place, and Bedloe deposed, That being at Colemans House with Father Harcourt, and other persons, May 25. 1677. and falling into discourse concerning the design in hand, Coleman said these words, ' That if he had a Sea of Blood, and one hundred Lives, he would lose them all to carry on the Design, and if to this end it were required to destroy one hundred Heretick Kings he would do it. Several Papers and Letters were also produced, one of which was written to Father Le Chaise the French Kings Confessor, wherein among other things he thus exprest himself : ' We have a mighty work upon our hands, no less than the conversion of three Kingdoms, and the utter subduing of a pestilent Heresie, which has for some time domineer'd over this Northern part of the World, and we never had so great hopes of it since our Queen Marys days. There were other Letters to the same person, to excite him to procure Aid from the French King, of Money, Arms and Men : Dr. Oates gave a full account of the whole conspiracy, and of Colemans part in it, so that upon the whole he was found Guilty of High Treason, and Dec. 3. following was Executed for the same at Tyburn.

An Act was now passed, That no Papist should sit in either House of Parliament, but by the Interest of the Duke of York in the House of Lords, there was a clause added, That he should be exempted, though it was principally designed against him as being the chiefest ; yet they hereby declared to all the World

that he was a Papist. Pickering, Ireland and Grove, were Tryed soon after, and Executed for the Plot.

Whilst the Parliament were prosecuting the Popish Conspiracy, upon a sudden a Proclamation was published, Jan. 25. for their Dissolution, after they had continued seventeen years and about eight months, and may be called the second Long Parliament of this Age, and another was ordered to meet March 6. following. Feb. 10. Robert Green, Henry Berry, and Lawrence Hill (being taken some time before) were Tryed for the Murder of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey, and upon full Evidence condemned and executed. Before this new Parliament met, the King sent the Duke of York a Letter, to desire him to absent himself for some time, with all assurances of Love nevertheless; upon which the Duke went to Brussels in Flanders. When the Parliament were sate down, the King told them, ' That he met them there with the most earnest desire that Man could have to Unite the minds of all his Subjects, both to himself and one another, to which end he had done many great things already, as the exclusion of the Popish and Lords from their Seats in Parliament, the execution of several, both upon the score of the Plot and the Murder of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey; That he had was Disbanded as much of the Army as he had Money to do, and would the rest when they enabled him; and above all, That he had commanded his Brother to absent himself, because he would not leave the most malicious men room to say, He had not removed all causes which could be pretended to influence him towards Popish Councils: That he hath, and shall do all he can, for the discovery of the Popish Plot, and Murder of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey, and expects assistance in it from both Houses: That he had not been wanting to put the Laws in execution against the Papists, and shall be ready to join with them in any good Laws, to preserve the Kingdom

Kingdom from Popery, and concludes with desiring Supplies, &c.

But the King observing his Conduct to have lost Reputation, confessed soon after, by a Declaration, his error in Governing his Affairs by Cabals and not by Parliaments, and his Privy Council, by whose advice he had always thriven best, resolving for the future to be ruled by them, and therefore dissolved entirely his Privy Council and chose another, into which were taken some of the most popular and honest Members of the House of Commons, as the good Lord Russel, the Lord Cavendish, Sir Henry Capel, Mr. Powle, and some others, with several eminent Peers; but they continued not long in, for finding themselves useless they desired to be dismiss'd again, judging they were only taken in to countenance some sinister proceedings: In the mean time the House of Commons proceed to Impeach the Lords in the Tower, and to secure the King and Kingdom for time to come, against Popery and Arbitrary Government; and in a Grand Committee, after the secret Committee had made their Report to the House of the Duke of Yorks Letters, wherein it appeared what great joy was conceived at Rome by his Holiness for the Dukes Conversion to the Catholick Faith, so that it caused Tears of joy from his Holiness eyes, with divers other Letters, discovering much of the Intrigues of Rome, the House came to this Resolution, ' That the Duke of Yorks being a Papist, and the hopes of his coming such to the Crown, hath been the chief cause of this Hellish Plot and Conspiracy, for the destruction of the King, and altering of the Government, and that therefore a Bill be brought in to disable James Duke of York from Inheriting the Imperial Crown of this Realm:

The French King all this while, under the Notion

Dependancies upon the foot of the late Treaty, makes daily incroachments upon the Emperor, and the K. of Spain in Flanders, and though the Duke of York was so near him, and had so zealously served him, yet he would not see him, but insinuated to the contrary; nor was the Spaniard kind to the Duke, which made him desirous to return home.

May 14. 1679. The Commons present an Address to the King, declaring, That in defence of his person and the Protestant Religion, they would stand by him with their Lives and Fortunes, and shall be ready to Revenge any violence offered him. Then the Parliament took into consideration the Disbanding the Army, and passed an Act for raising two hundred and sixty thousand pounds to that purpose, which they ordered to be paid into Guild Hall, and four of their own Members to Disband them; which was done accordingly. One Mr. Reading about this time is Tryed at the Kings-Bench-Bar, upon Mr. Bedlows Accusation, for endeavouring to corrupt the Kings Evidence, and is brought in Guilty, and Sentenced to stand in the Pillory, to pay one hundred pounds Fine, and to suffer a years Imprisonment; and divers others were prosecuted upon the same Act. And now the differences between the Lords and Commons growing warm, about the Tryal of the Lords in the Tower, the King coming to the House, and passing the Habeas Corpus, and two other private Acts, he prorogued the Parliament from May 27. to August 24 following.

May 29. An Insurrection happened in Scotland, and if we may believe Dr. Oates, whom we have not found yet to fail, the Jesuits had sent Emissaries thither to foment the Discontents of the people of Scotland, and to lay the mischief upon the Presbyterians, and soon after the Archbishop of St. Andrews was murdered in his Coach by five persons, but by the conduct of the Duke of Monmouth, it was in a short time sup-

prest.

prest. June 13. Mr. Langhorn, and soon after Whitebread, Harcourt, Gaven, Turner and Fenwick, all Jesuits, were Executed at Tyburn for being concerned in the plot.

And now the popish Conspirators endeavour with all their power to stifle the plot by several different methods, as by discouraging men from making discoveries, of which Oates and Bedlow had sufficient tryal, as well as divers others, and by casting the plot upon the Protestants; and this was designed by the Countess of Powis, and Mrs. Cellier the popish Midwife, employing one Thomas Dangerfield, a dextrous fellow, whom they took out of prison, and promised him great preferment if he would carry Treasonable Letters and papers into the Chambers of divers considerable Protestants, and then to pretend to search for them, and when found to seize the persons. His first attempt was upon Coll. Mansel, bringing two Officers of the Custom to his Lodgings, under pretence of searching for prohibited Goods, who being absent, Dangerfield diverts them to remove the Bed, and at last going himself behind it, discovered papers which he had planted there, and before they could well look into any of them, he cries out, Here is Treason, and there is Treason. The Coll. coming home, was soon sensible of the cheat, and seized Dangerfield at Mrs. Celliers-house, and upon examining the matter before the Council he was committed to Newgate, and Sir William Waller searching Celliers house, found in the bottom of a Meal-Tub a List of about two hundred persons, whom they pretended to be in a conspiracy against the Government. Dangerfield being in prison confess'd the whole Intrigue, and all his Employers, from the greatest to the least; upon which the Countess of Powis, Mrs. Cellier, and Mr. Gadbury the Astrologer, were committed to prison and was afterward sentenced to be set in the Pillory three times.

The Parliament not answering the ends they were called for, July 12. 1679. they were dissolved by Proclamation, and another to be called Octob. 7. following, during which the Duke of York returned to England, but before their sitting he was sent to Scotland, and the Earl of Shaftsbury, who opposed several things offered on his behalf, is removed from the Council. The Parliament being chosen, the Com did not approve of their complexion, and therefore they were kept off by several prorogations for above a year, not being suffered to sit till Oct. 22. 1680. In this Interval, July 18. 1679. Sir George Wake man, William Marshall, William Rumney, and John Corker, were Tryed for Treason, and by the Indust of the then Lord Ch. Justice acquitted, which mad the conspirators Triumph, and boast that the plot was at an end, and that it was all contrived by Oare and his Accomplices. Nov. 17. being Q. Elizabeth day, the Pope in Effigie, attended with the Effigies of Sir George Jeffreys, and three our four others, wh were obnoxious to the hatred of the people, as judg ing them favourers of the popish plot, were pom posly brought through London with a very gre Attendance, where they were all of them together with a loud acclamation, thrown into the fire prep red for that purpose. Jan. 13. A petition was pre sented by several Citizens and others, for the sitti of the Parliament, but they were severely checked by the King for their pretended presumption; and sev ral other Petitions were presented, wherein they declare their abhorrence of Petitioning, which we received with great satisfaction.

The Papists were now very earnest with Cardi Norfolk, to perswade the Pope to remit some mon to England, telling him, ' That the Catholick Ca lay at Stake; but he slipt his Neck out of the Col and would lend none, replying, ' That the Eng Catholicks were not to be trusted, giving some

them opprobrious Language, calling them perfidious Rascals ; and the French King pretended his own Exigencies would not permit him to lend any money. About this time Mr. William Bedlow fell sick at Bristol, and finding he could not live, he sent for Judge North then in Town, and gave him this Testimony before he Died, That all was true which he had Deposed, and something farther, which was concealed. It was reported he should say, Present my Duty to the King, and tell him if he be not very cautious the Papists will take away his Life ; this was a great mortification to them.

The Parliament met Octob. 22. 1680. and the House of Commons fell upon those who had obstructed Petitioning the King for the sitting of the Parliament, and several Justices of Peace in divers Counties, being informed against upon that account, they were taken into Custody, and Voted guilty of betraying the Rights and Liberties of the people of England. A Bill for Excluding the Duke of York from succeeding to the Crown is passed by the Commons, almost unani-
mous contradicente, but being sent up to the House of Lords, they rejected it upon the first Reading, however the Commons proceed to the Trial of the Lord Stafford, at Westminster Hall, before his Peers, who found him Guilty of High Treason, and he was Beheaded on Tower-hill Decemb. 29. following. They then proceeded to Impeach the Judges, but the King having moved them for a Supply, and finding little hope to gain it, he resolved to dissolve them ; however the King sent them word, ' That he was confirmed in his opinion against altering the Succession, by the Lords throwing out the Bill, yet if they would think of some other Expedients to secure the Nation against Popery, he would be ready to agree to it. The Peers think of banishing the Duke five hundred miles distance during the Kings Life : The Commons resolve upon a Bill of Association,

but would by no means let fall the Bill against the Duke of York, whereupon, Jan. 18. the King Dissolves the Parliament, declaring he will call another, March 21. at Oxford. Feb. 28. Edward Fitz Harris is seized by Sir William Waller, being accused by Edmund Everard, for contriving a Libel under the Name of the Nonconformists, wherein he represented the King as a Papist. which he said might easily be proved, by his espousing the Duke of Yorks Interest, and preferring known Papists; and that K. Charles I. was a promoter of the Irish Rebellion, and his present Majesty furthered and approved it. And to exhort the people to blow the Trumpet boldly; this Libel was to be printed, and sent about by the Penny-post to some popular Peers, and the Leading-men in the House of Commons, who were to be taken up as soon as they had it, and to be search'd, that so it might be found about them. For this Fitz Harris was committed to Newgate, and Impeach'd by the House of Commons at Oxford, but the Lords rejecting the Impeachment, he was Tryed at the Kings Bench Bar, where he accused some great persons, (especially the Dutchess of Portsmouth) as having given him two hundred pounds for managing the Intrigue; however he was Found Guilty and Executed (with Oliver Plunker, Titular Archbishop of Dublin) for High Treason.

March 17. The four Parliament men for London set forward for Oxford, attended by a great many worthy Citizens, and others; many of whom had Ribbands in their Hats, with these words woven in them, No Popery, No Slavery. March 21. The Parliament met at Oxford, and were surrounded with Horse and Foot Guards both in Oxford and some of the Neighbouring Villages, where the King tells them, ' That the unwarrantable proceedings of the last House of Commons was the occasion of parting with them, and recommended to them the preservation of Tangier, The Trying the Lords in the Tower;

Tower; and that to remove their fears of a popish Successor, he is ready to hearken to any Expedients by which the Protestant Religion might be preserved, and the Monarchy not destroyed. The Commons (as we have said) having an account from Sir William Waller of the case of Fitz Harris, Impeach'd him, upon which some difference arising between the two Houses, and for divers other Reasons, March 28. 1681. the Parliament is Dissolved, having only sat seven days.

And now the Scene is altered, and a Protestant plot is advanced, upon which Stephen Colledge and John Rouse, were apprehended and sent to the Tower, the Lord Howard of Escrick having been committed thither some time before. July 2. the Earl of Shaftsbury was likewise committed to the Tower for High Treason, and his papers seized, wherein, it was said, was found the Copy of an Association. July 8. Stephen Colledge being brought to the Old Bailey, the Grand Jury brought in the Bill Ignoramus, being sensible of the many Enormities of the Irish Evidences, who swore against him, upon which his Adversaries soon brought him to a second Tryal at Oxford, and by a believing Jury found Guilty, and Executed for High Treason, Aug. 31. 1681.

At the same time Mr. John Wilmore, the Foreman of his first Jury, was committed to the Tower for Treason, but it dwindled into an Information for Kidnapping a little Boy, and sending him to Jamaica. Oct. 19. John Rouse was Indicted at the Old Bailey for High Treason, but the Grand Jury knowing the Witnesses to be the former set of Irish papists, would not find the Bill. Nov. 24. the Earl of Shaftsbury was Indicted at the same place, and eight or ten of the same Irish Cattel Swore against them; but many of the Jury, of their own knowledge, and by the confession of several of them, being sensible that they had been tampered with, and Suborned by the popish

party, they likewise returned the Bill Ignoramus, at which there was a great shout in the Court, and Bonfires and much Rejoicing in the City the same time, which still the more inflamed his Enemies, so that now no less than the forfeiture of the Charter of London, confirmed by many Acts of Parliament, in the most comprehensive manner, though gallantly defended by the Learned Argument Law of the Lord Chief Justice Pollexfen, and the now Lord Chief Justice Treby, that one may wonder there should be Lawyers found to plead against it: This was followed by the seizing of the Charters of many of the Corporations in England, that they might thereby be subjected to the will of the King, who in the new Charters had power to place or displace what Officers soever he pleased, though formerly Elected by the majority of the Inhabitants; and by the Duke of Yorks Interest many false Protestants were got into places of Trust, who upon a push would be ready to join with the Papists. And order was given to prosecute the Dissenting party to the utmost, whereby to make the breach wider, and a party was employed, and others by Rewards allured, to cry up Absolute power, and that it was our bounden Duty to submit to it, and one of the most damnable Sins that could be committed for people to use any means for their own preservation, though according to Law, which was a great temptation to Princes, to carry on what Designs they pleased, and made them assume the boldness to act what they would else have hazarded.

This was followed by imposing Sheriffs upon the City of London; for opposing which, and asserting the Rights of free Election, Sir Tho. Pilkington, and Mr. Shute, then Sheriffs, were sent prisoners to the Tower. June 26. 1682. and the year following, the same persons, with the Lord Grey, Alderman Cornish, Sir Thomas Player, Slingsby Bethel Esq; and others were found Guilty of a pretended Riot at Guild-hall

and an Assault upon the late Lord Mayor, though only in defence of the Liberties of the City, and severely Fined at the Kings-Bench-Bar.

And now all things being prepared, Jan. 12. 1683. Coll. Rumsey, and some others, pretended to discover a Conspiracy for Assassinating the King and the Duke of York at the Rye-house, in their coming from New-market; to gain credit to which, a great noise was made of a Fire a little before at New-market, which it had not happened the King and Duke had been been cut off, whereby the King came unexpect-
edly to London, a Fornight before the time he used to part from thence. but many wise men were of opinion, that the Town was fired on purpose by some of the Popish party to gain credit to this plot; but by the concurrent Testimony of those that suffered (except Hone, who talked like a Mad man, saying, That he was for killing the King, and saving the Duke); as Capt. Walcote, Rouse, and Holloway, it did appear that Rumsey, and two other Witnesses, were employed to raise Treasonable discourses among them, they utterly denying upon their Deaths their ever having given consent to the Assassinating of the King and Duke: Nay, says Holloway, there was but four or five that mentioned it, of which Rumsey, and two of the Evidences, were three, and that Rouse and Walcot were not of that number. Rumbold like-
wise, who was said to have been one of the deepest in the conspiracy, and Mr. Nelthrop, both denied their consenting in the least to such a barbarous design at their Deaths in 1685. And as to a plet said to be man-
aged by the Council of Six, namely, The Duke of Monmouth, E. of Essex, Lord Russel, Lord Howard, Coll. Sydney, and Mr. John Hampden, the Justice of the Nation has sufficiently vindicated them, the King, Lords and Commons, having declared by several Acts, some of them to be illegally put to Death, and rever-
sed the Verdicts against Sir Tho. Armstrong, and others.

Others, to the shame of those Juries; and certainly it was very deplorable (and our Deliverance from such practices ought with all thankfulness to be acknowledged) that Judges, Juries, Witnesses and Council, should all strive who should most signalize their zeal for Arbitrary power by strains of Wit, and wresting of Law. The Earl of Essex his Throat was cut in the Tower almost from Ear to Ear, and his Death happening at that very instant when the worthy Lord Russel was upon his Tryal, occasioned many to think that he had foul play, especially considering his Death was then made use of by Jeffreys to the Jury, to influence them to find him Guilty, and likewise the severe prosecution of Mr. Lawrence Braddon, and Mr. Speak, for endeavouring to discover it, so that (to use Mr. Braddons words) ‘ The violent, barefaced, and irreconcileable temper, wherewith he was unjustly prosecuted, hath been no small Argument with most men to believe the truth of his Lordships murder, there being scarce one instance more to be given, where a person was prosecuted for endeavouring by legal ways to find out how the King lost a Subject, especially when in prison, under the more immediate protection of the Law; for both these Gentlemen were Tryed upon this account, Jan. 28. 1683. and the first Fined 2000*l.* and the other 1000*l.*’

This month was so hard a Frost, and the River of Thames was so frozen that many hundreds of Booths were built thereon, Coaches were driven over it, and Passengers as thick as any Street in London. There were Shops with most sorts of Trades, and several diversions, as Bull-baiting, Nine-pins, and a whole Ox was Roasted on the Ice against White-Hall.

The rest of this Kings Reign was spent in Fining men for Words, and for publishing papers against the present management of Affairs, in seizing and renewing surrendered Charters, and Fining men upon pretended

pretended damages, Mr. Papillon being Fined 10000*l.*
for Arresting the late Lord Mayor by the Kings Writ ;
and lastly, in fomenting dissentions among Prote-
stants, which I cannot better express than in the
words of an excellent person. ‘ Our Adversaries ha-
ving taken great care long ago that our divisions
should not be healed, sometimes they courted one
party to fall upon another, and then turned about
and courted the contrary party to take their Re-
venge for it : Sometimes the Laws must be put in
execution with all imaginable strictness, and then
this strictness must be condemned as Anti-Christian
rigor against our Brethren : Sometimes the Church
of England were the Favourites, and after a short
Courtship turned off, and the Dissenters comple-
mented as the only Darlings. Thus they plaid us
one against another a long time, and we were so
blind that we could not, or would not understand
that they loved none of us, but designed the utter
Ruin of us all, and that in the most vile and infa-
mous manner, by making us the Instruments of our
own destruction, unto which we contributed with
all our might, by our fierce opposition, and violent
clashings one against another, to the indangering
the loss of the two most precious things in the
World, our Religion and Liberties.

Feb. 2. 1684. the King was declared to be seized
with a violent Fit of an Apoplexy, of which he died
on Friday the 6th. instant following, all things being
prepared for his Successor, even at the very time
he was resolved to sift out some miscarriages, and
much inclined to call a new Parliament. After his
Death, his Brother declared that he lived a Roman
Catholick, by publishing his Reasons against the Pro-
testant Religion, written, as was said, with his own
hand, and found in his strong Box, and likewise that
he Died so, having the last Offices of his life perform-
ed by Father Huddleston a Roman Priest, and was bu-
ried

ried a few days after in King Henry the Seventh's Chappel with little Funeral pomp.

And because some of his Admirers, who will allow of no miscarriages in his Reign, may be offend-ed at this brief account of his Life, and alledge that we ought to write nothing but the good deeds of the Dead, I shall insert for an Apology the wise saying of our most excellent Queen when Princess of Orange, which I find lately Printed, and was related to the Author by a Reverend Divine then present.

They would incense her Royal Highness against the famous French Minister Monsieur Jurieu, who in his History of Scotland, that he might the better justifie the Reformation, made a very black representation of their Queen Mary. ' Is it not a shame, said one of the Company, that this man, without any consider-ation of your Royal Person, should dare to throw such infamous Calumnies upon a Queen from whom your Royal Highness is descended? Not at all, replied the ingenious Princess, for is it not enough that by fulsome praises Princes be lull'd asleep all their Lives, but must flattery accompany them to their Graves? How should then Princes fear the Judgment of posterity, if Historians were not allow-ed to speak the Truth after their Deaths?

And an eminent Author, who is a sufficient Admirer of Popish and Arbitrary principles, writing upon such an occasion, ' I cannot understand (saith he) why an Historian, relating passed Events, should be forbidden to call things by their own Name.

The History of King James the Second.

THIS was but a short Reign, yet full of strange and surprizing circumstances, while a Popish Prince ascends the Throne to Rule a Protestant people, and takes a Coronation Oath to defend those Laws which he had stedfastly resolved to dispence with ; nor did he gradually and insensibly endeavour to introduce his Innovations of Popery as in the former Reign, but rushed and broke in like a Torrent, with open and armed violence upon the Ancient constitutions of the Nation, as one that growing Old was to make great steps, and by consequence if he should dye, must leave the Papists worse than he found them. These were the irregular motions which brought down that sudden Revolution upon the late Kings head, and put an end to his present Reign ; a Revolution not to be parallell'd, but seasonable to the Brittish Monarchy, the Glory whereof was almost brought to utter ruin and destruction, and therefore we must always acknowledge the great Deliverance which His Majesty, next under God, has wrought for us, so great as never ought to be forgotten, and can never be sufficiently requited : He will certainly be always mentioned with Honour and Gratitude by posterity, enjoying the benefit of his Noble Enter-prise so long as the Protestant Name shall endure, for he came not like the Ancient Romans and Saxons to Conquer, and lead in Triumph after him our Religion and Laws, our Lives and Liberties, but to de-fend, preserve, and secure them to us. To this end he undertook so hazardous and chargeable an Expe-dition, which has proved no less to our advantage than to his everlasting Honour, and of which I shall give a brief account, and discover the violent designs of Popery and Arbitrary Dominion, and how much we are obliged to our Generous preserver.

King Charles expiring, Feb. 6. 1684. in the morning, in the Afternoon his Brother the Duke of York and Albany was proclaimed King, by the Name of James the Second, and a proclamation thereupon issued to continue all persons in their several Offices and places; and upon the first sitting of the Council, he was pleased to declare himself to this effect, ' That since it had pleased Almighty God to place him in that Station, and that he was now to succeed so good and gracious a King as well as so kind a Brother, he thought fit to declare, That he would endeavour to follow his Example, and more especially in that of his great Clemency and Tenderness to his people: That he had been reported to be a man for Arbitrary power, though that had not been the only story which had been made of him, yet he should make it his endeavour to preserve the Government both in Church and State, as it was by Law Established: That he knew the principles of the Church of England were for Monarchy, and that the Members of it had shewn themselves good and loyal Subjects, and therefore he should always take care to defend and support it: That he knew the Laws of England were sufficient to make the King as great a Monarch as he could wish, and therefore as he should never depart from the Just Rights and Prerogatives of the Crown, so he should never invade any mans property. Lastly, That he had often ventured his Life in defence of the Nation, and would go as far as any man in preserving it in all its just Rights and Liberties.

Upon which the Council desired that his Gracious Expressions might be published, which was ordered accordingly.

The next day a proclamation was published for continuing the payment of the Customs and Excise, though the Laws were expired by the Death of the late King; for several Weeks after, the Gazettes were

full of Addresses from all parts of the Kingdom, declaring their General joy for the new Kings coming to the Crown, and acknowledging his grace and favour in his Gracious Declaration to the Privy Council, assuring him of their ready obedience to his commands, and their Resolutions to devote their Lives and Fortunes to maintain his Rights, and defend his Sacred person and Royal prerogative.

Soon after the King was proclaimed in Ireland, and in Scotland, from whence an Address was sent from the Archbishops and Bishops, acknowledging the Kings pious Zeal for the Honour and Interest of his Royal Brother when he was amongst them, and not doubting his favour and protection to their Church and Order, when they reflected upon his piety and zeal for all these Interests during his aboad in that Kingdom. Several Ambassadors now arrived from divers Forreign States and Princes, to congratulate his Accession to the Throne; and April 23. 1685. the King and Queen were both Crowned at Westminster with great Solemnity, though not without some ominous presages of impending misfortunes.

And now was brought on one of the most surprising Trials in the World, that a person should be Tryed, who with the hazard of his life had discovered a most damnable popish plot against the Government and Protestant Religion, and upon whose Evidence principally the Parliament passed the following Resolution, March 15. 1679.

‘ Resolved, Nemine contradicente, by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in Parliament Assembled, That they do declare that they are fully satisfied by the proofs they have heard, that there now is, and for divers years last past, hath been an Horrid and Treasonable plot and conspiracy, continued and carried on by those of the Popish Religion, for the murdering of His Majesties Sacred person, and for Subverting the Protestant Religion.

‘ Religion, and the Ancient and Established Government of this Kingdom.

Yet this person, Dr. Titus Oates, was now Indicted for Perjury, under a popish King (suspected when Duke of York to be concerned in carrying on the same plot by a pick'd Jury, and the Testimony of popish partial Witnesses, (whose Evidence had been already hissed out of the Court) under the management of a partial Judge, who only studied by Arbitrary Judgments to please and gratifie the Humour of a popish Prince, who affirmed that a Papist in case of Religion might be believed and received as a good Witness ; so that whatever he offered in matter of Law and Reason being over-ruled, the Doctor concluded with an appeal to the Great God of Heaven and Earth, the Judge of all, and in his presence, and before all the Auditory, avowed his Evidence of the popish plot, all, and every part of it, to be nothing but true, expecting from Almighty God the vindication of his Integrity and Innocence. But before such a Court he could expect no less than to be found Guilty, which he was upon two Indictments, and May 18. had this unparalleled Sentence pronounced against him, That he should be divested of his Canonical Habit for ever : That on Monday following he be carried round Westminster-Hall with a paper on his Head, declaring his offence in these words, ‘ Titus Oates convicted upon full Evidence for two horrid Perjuries, and that afterward he stand in the Pillory before Westminster-Hall Gate, and on Tuesday before the Royal Exchange : That on Wednesday he be whipp'd from Aldgate to Newgate by the Common Hangman ; and on Friday following from Newgate to Tyburn : That he stand in the Pillory every 24th day of April, during his Life, at Tyburn : Every 9th of August in the Palace-Yard at Westminster : Every 10th of August at Charing-cross : Every 11th of August at Temple-Bar ; and every

2d of September before the Royal Exchange. That he pay a Fine of 1000 Marks for each Perjury, and that he suffer Imprisonment during Life. And as if the Judge himself had been concerned in the Revenge of the Papists for the Doctors discovery of the plot, he farther told him openly, That if it had been in his power to have carried it farther, he would have been willing to have given Judgment of Death upon him, for he was sure he deserved it. All which extremity of cruelty and ignominy, the Doctor induced with such a courage and fortitude, as did the Papists more mischief than all his Evidence had done before, to the great regret of his Adversaries, and shame of his Judges.

May 26. The Parliament met at Westminster, to whom the King renewed his assurances of his protecting the Church of England, and preserving our just Rights and Liberties, requiring them to settle his Revenue upon him during Life. He likewise told them that the E. of Argyle was Landed in Scotland, and desired their speedy assistance. Upon this the Parliament declared they would stand by the King with their Lives and Fortunes, for Suppression of the said Rebels, and all other his Enemies whatsoever.

May 28. Thomas Dangerfield was Tryed at the Kings Bench Bar, upon an Information for Writing and publishing a Libel called his Narrative, and found Guilty, for that was the necessary consequence of any mans being Tryed at that time, if he had done any thing in opposition to the popish Interest: He had the same whipping as Dr. Oates, but returning from his last suffering was run through the Eye into the Brains as he rode in the Coach, of which wound he dyed in a few days: However, the person that did the Fact was Hanged for it upon the same Gallows to which the other had been whipp'd. Upon the same day Mr. Baxter, a Learned and Eminent Divine, was Tryed and Convicted at Guild-Hall for writing

Annotations upon the New Testament, for which he was Fined five hundred Marks, and to find Sureties for his good behaviour during life.

And now happened a very remarkable Transaction, for June 13. the King received an Express from the Mayor of Lyme, that on Thursday before, about Seven in the Evening, the Duke of Monmouth was Landed with one hundred and fifty men, wherewith he had possess'd himself of the Town, and had sent some of his number to the Neighbouring Counties to raise the people ; of which the King gave notice to the Parliament, who presently attainted the Duke of High Treason, and promised to assist him to the utmost against the Duke of Monmouth and all others. Then followed a Proclamation for apprehending all persons that should publish the Paper, intituled, A Declaration of James Duke of Monmouth, and the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and others, now in Arms, for the defence and vindication of the Protestant Religion, and of the Laws, Rights, and Priviledges, of England, from the Invasion made upon them, and for delivering the Kingdom from the Tyranny of James Duke of York. And another Proclamation was published, promising five hundred pounds reward to any that should bring the Body of James Duke of Monmouth alive or dead.

About ten days after, William Disney Esq; being taken in Surrey with several of these Declarations in his House, was Tryed and Executed for the same.

May 20. 1685. the Earl of Argyle Landed near Kintire in Scotland, and the next day sent abroad the Summons following : ' That being by Gods blessing come safe to that place for the defence of the Protestant Religion, our Lives and Liberties, against Popery and Arbitrary Government, he required all persons from sixteen to sixty to come and join with him, with Arms and Provisions necessary. And his Son Charles sent Letters to several Gentlemen upon

upon the same account, so that in a few days his Army increased to 2500 men, with whom he marched toward Lenox. June 11. three hundred of the Kings Foot, under the Marquess of Athol, defeated a party of Argyles of four hundred Foot and eighty Horse. The same day two of the Kings Men of War coming before Ellengreg Castle, the Garrison left the place, whereupon they took possession of it, and found five thousand Arms, five hundred Barrels of Powder, with all other Stores proportionable, which they took, together with Argyles Ships, Boats, with all the Ammunition and Guns. The Earl of Argyle marched toward Glasgow, and the Kings Forces, under the Earl of Dunbarton, followed him, but Sir John Cockram undertaking to provide Guides to conduct him thither, they mistaking the way led Argyle into a Bog, from whence returning toward Clyde, he was fallen upon by two of Grenocks Servants, but scorning to yield, he Fired upon them when they called out to him ; however he received a Wound in his Head, upon which he alighted and run into the Water, and a Country Fellow running in after him, where he was almost up to the Neck, the Earl presented his Pistol at him but it would not go off, upon which the Fellow gave him a blow on the Head which stunned him, so that he fell, and in his falling cried out, Unfortunate Argyle. They then seized him, and carried him to their Commander. Sir John Cockram with his party made toward the Sea, but was soon after defeated, and himself and Son taken prisoners. The Earl of Argyle was committed to Edenburg Castle, and June 30. was Beheaded at the Market Cross ; he made no Speech upon the Scaffold, but delivered a paper to the Dean of Edenburg. And thus fell the Earl of Argyle, for his Gallantry and Love to the Protestant Religion, worthy of better Fortune.

Nor had the Duke of Monmouth more fortunate Success, for marching out of Lime, June 14.

with

with sixty Horse and one hundred and twenty Foot, he came to Bridport, and thence to Taunton, greatly increasing his numbers as he marched, so that they amounted to about six thousand ; with which coming to Sedgmore, within three miles of Bridgwater, the Kings Forces consisting in two thousand Foot, and five hundred Horse, resolved to oppose their progress : The Fight was begun by the Dukes men with Shouts and brisk Vollies on both sides, and the Dukes Horse were coming up to second their Foot, but were Engaged by the Kings, so that after some inconsiderable resistance they left the Field ; the Foot stood him for a while, but the Kings Cannon and Horse coming up, they were in a short time defeated, and three pieces of Cannon, which were all they had, taken. Two thousand were killed upon the place, and several taken prisoners ; soon after the Lord Grey was taken in disguise at Ringwood, and the Duke of Monmouth in a Corn Field. June 15. the Duke was Beheaded upon Tower-Hill, the more Unfortunate if what was Reported was true, That he fell by Treachery. For this Success a Thanksgiving is kept July 25. wherein the King declares, That now nothing remained which could disturb the future Quiet of his Reign ; and soon after the Marshal de Humieres, and the Count de Tormere, are sent from the French King, and the Duke of Orléance, to congratulate the Kings Victory over his Enemies.

And now the Parliament having settled the Kings Revenue, and much increased it by large Imposts upon Sugar, Tobacco, and East-India Goods, they are Adjourned to Aug. 4. And July 26. the Earl of Stamford, the Lord Brandon Gerrard, and the Lord Delamere, were committed prisoners to the Tower, and a Proclamation published to Summon in several others. After which, the Lord Chief Justice Jeffreys and others, were sent into the West to try the Admirals of the Duke of Monmouth, where he made miserable

ferable havock among those poor people, condemning some hundreds, and causing them to be Hanged in all the principal Towns, and their Quarters to be set up in such abundance, that the stench even infected the Air: Few of those that went from London escap'd, unless such as turned Evidences against others; many as well Women as Men were publickly whipp'd, and others had their Estates seized, and a great number were thrust on Shipboard and Sold to the American plantations, so that nothing but weeping and lamentations were to be heard: Yet nothing could move the inexorable Judge to compassion, for a Proclamation coming forth, forbidding the harbouring or relieving any that were concerned with the Duke upon pain of Death, they were forced to wander up and down in Woods and desolate places, their nearest Relations not daring to relieve them, so that several were starved to Death, or perished with cold, and for want of Necessaries. Such as could get Shipping went to Holland, and other places of Refuge, and the Lady Alicia Isle, for a terror to others, was Beheaded at Winchester for entertaining one Mr. John Hicks, which so affrighted the people, that a Father delivered up his own Son. And the Popish Priests, and others, by making Interests for Pardons, got great Sums of Money; nor did Jeffreys less enrich himself, who got 15000 pounds of one person for his Pardon, and great Sums of many others, and being glutted with Blood, having left the marks of Popish Mercy, or rather Barbarity, where ever he came, he returned to London, and for his excellent Service was made Lord Chancellor of England.

Oct. 19. Henry Cornish Esq; was Tryed at the Old Bailey for conspiring the Death of Charles II. deceased, of which he was found Guilty, and afterwards Executed in Cheapside as a Traytor, but his Innocence was sufficiently vindicated by the reversing of his Judgment in Parliament, to the Infamy of those that were accessory

accessary to the shedding his blood. The same day Elizabeth Gaunt was burnt at Tyburn for harbouring and relieving James Burton, a person Outlawed for Treason upon the Rye-house plot, himself being pardoned to inable him to be an Evidence against her. Oct. 27. Richard Nelthrop, and John Ayloff, were Executed for being with the Duke of Monmouth in the West. This month the Parliament met again, where the King told them, " That he was glad to meet them in peace and quietness, after the Storm of Rebellion was past, and hoped they were now convinced that the Militia, which had been hitherto depended on, was not sufficient upon such occasions, and that nothing but a good force of well Disciplin'd Troops in constant pay, could defend us, and therefore he had thought it necessary to increase his Army, and would have no exception taken that some of his Officers were not qualified according to the late Tests for their Imployments, since the Gentlemen were well known to him, and had formerly served him, and always approved the Loyalty of their principles by their practice : And to deal plainly with them (told them) that after having had the benefit of their Service in such a time of need and danger, he would neither expose them to disgrace, nor himself to the want of them, though he was sensible some might be so wicked as to hope and expect it would make a difference betwixt him and his Parliament. He likewise desired further the Supplies for the extraordinary charge he had been illegal upon this occasion. Both Houses went to wait upon the King, to give him thanks for this Harangue, and but this dispensing with Papists enjoying Offices would not take, so that after ten or eleven days they were with prorogued till February following.

And now we must expect little but Trials and Executions. Nov. 26. the Lord Brandon Gerrard was Tryed at the Kings Bench Bar, for Treason against King Charles

Charles II. and condemned, but after pardoned. Dec 4. Ch. Bateman, a Chirurgion, was Tryed for the same Treason as the former, being thought a branch of the Meal-Tub plot, and was condemned and executed. Dec. 30. J. Hamden Esq; was arraigned at the Old Baily for the saine Meal-Tub-Treason, who knowing what Justice he must expect pleaded Guilty, and threw himself upon the Kings mercy. The Right Hon. the L. Delamere had the best fortune of them all, for his Lordship being brought to Trial before the L. Chanc. Jeffreys, who was High Steward for the time being, he was Indicted for Treason against K James II. the King himself being present to hear it, but to the confusion of his Adversaries, was acquitted by his Peers, it manifestly appearing upon the Tryal, that Tho. Saxon, the principal Evidence, was perjured, who was after convicted, and punished for the same. The E. of Stamford was likewise bailed, and after pardoned.

But Philip Vernatti, attainted by Outlawry for the murder of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey, was allowed to reverse his Outlawry, and upon Trial was acquitted for the same. And May 14. 1686. Miles Prance was Tryed for perjury, as to his Evidence given against Green, Bury, and Hill, relating to the murder of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey, and for fear of Whipping confess'd the Indictment, so was only Fined and pillored, though sentenced to be Whipp'd from Newgate to Tyburn. Nov. 16. Mr. Samuel Johnson, a Clergy-man, was Tryed at the Kings-bench-bar for publishing a Libel against the Illegality of the standing Army, for which he received Judgment to stand in the pillory at Charing-cross, and the Royal-Exchange, and to be Whipp'd from Newgate to Tyburn; which was Executed upon him with the greatest rigor and severity.

In the mean while the King Rendevouz'd all his Forces upon Hounslow-Heath, and 2 Chappels were erected, one for Roman Catholicks, where they said Mass every morning, and had two Sermons upon the Sunday,

and another for the Protestants. During this Summer, the King having constituted Judges that he knew were fit for his purpose, Sir Edward Hales, a Papist, was Tryed upon an Action brought against him (by his own co-^{nt}sent) of 500 £. for receiving a Commission contrary to the Statute of the 25. of Charles II. Upon arguing the case by the 12 Judges, they all delivered their opinions in open Court (Judge Street only dissenting) that the King might lawfully dispense with that Statute, and that they went upon these grounds, 1. That the Kings of England are Sovereign Princes. 2. That the Laws of England are the Kings Laws. 3. That it is an inseparable Prerogative in the King to dispense with Penal Laws, upon necessity and urgent occasions. 4. That the King is sole Judge of that necessity. 5. That this is not in trust given to the King, but 'tis the ancient Remains of the Crown, which never was, nor can be taken away from him. The Dispensing power thus gained the King soon made use of it; and a while after, the Lord Bishop of London being required to Suspend the Reverend Dr. Sharp, under pretence that he had uttered Seditious words in his Sermons, which his Lordship declaring he could not legally do, he is Summoned before the New Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Affairs, where after a vigorous and illegal prosecution, his Lordship had this Sentence pronounced against him, That Henry Lord Bishop of London being convened before the Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Affairs for his disobedience, and other contempts, being fully heard, upon mature deliberation of the matter, was by them declared, decreed and pronounced, Suspended from the Function and execution of his Episcopal Office.

These illegal proceedings did extreamly incense the people against the Authors of them, but they were resolved not to stop here; for in February 1686. the Earl of Tyrconnel was sent to Ireland, and the Earl of Clarendon removed: And about the same

same time a Proclamation for Liberty of Conscience, and the Suspending of the execution of the Penal Laws, was published in Scotland, acquitting all persons whatsoever from taking the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and the several Tests and Declarations, as by Law they were required. And April 4. 1677. the like Declaration was published in England, and soon after in Ireland, for which numerous Addresses of Thanks were made to the King from some people of all persuasions, even from the Roman Catholics to the Quakers. After this the King published a Proclamation for recalling his Subjects out of the Service of the States General, which they prevented by Disbanding them.

Feb. 9. 1677. the King sends a Letter to Dr. Peacock the Vice-chancellor, and the Delegates of the University of Cambridge, to admit one Alban Francis, a Benedictine Monk, to be Master of Arts without taking the Oaths, by virtue of the Dispensing power, which they refusing, as contrary to the Statutes, were Summoned before the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, where the Lord Chancellor (contrary to Law or Reason) pronounced Sentence, ' That the Vice-chancellor, as being guilty of great disobedience to the Kings commands, and other crimes and contempts, should be deprived of his Office of Vice-chancellor, and Suspended of his Headship of Magdalen Colledge. And thus the Gravity and Learning of this famous University was in a fair way to have been trampled down, to let in an Inundation of silly and illiterate Popish Priests, Monks and Friars.'

The next Quarrel they had was with the Gentlemen of Magdalen Colledge in Oxford, who for refusing to admit one Mr. Farmer, a Papist, to the Presidentship of that Colledge, vacant by the Death of Dr. Clark, and Electing Dr. Hough, all the Fellows to the number of twenty six were pronounced guilty of disobedience to His Majesties commands, and con-

demned to be deprived and expelled from their respective Fellowships; and, if possible, to starve them, a second Order is published by the Commissioners to make them incapable of any Ecclesiastical Dignity, Benefice or Promotion, and those not in Holy Orders never to be admitted into any: An apparent effect of Popish Inhumanity against abominated Heresie, and no less vigorously prosecuted by their Pseudo-Protestant Tools, discovering one of the most topping pieces of malice carried on by the Kings popish Counsellors, who now thinking like a Torrent to carry down all before them, were grown confident with success, and having a company of corrupt and fawning Judges, and consequently the Law on their side, they attempted to attack no less than seven of the chiefest Protestant Prelates of the Nation at one time: for the King having published an Order, May 4. 1688. by which the Bishops were required to cause his Declaration for Liberty of Conscience to be read in all Churches and Chappels throughout the Kingdom, they refused to meddle in it, whereupon the Popish party began to rant highly, yet secretly rejoiced, hoping to gain their ends by the Kings being exasperated against them, but the Archbishop of Canterbury, with the Bishops of Ely, St. Asaph, Chichester, Bath and Wells, Peterborough, and Worcester, drew up a Petition in behalf of themselves and some of their absent brethren, declaring the Reasons of their dissent, which so offended the King, who expected obedience without reserve, that he told them, ' He had heard of this before, but did not believe it, nor did expect such usage from the Church of England. After which the Petition was declared Tumultuary, and consequently a Seditious Libel, and these Bishops were sent for before the Council, and committed to the Tower. And on June 15. 1688. they were Tryed at the Kings Bench Bar, and brought in Not Guilty. by the Jury, to the Joy of the people; yea, the Army

my at Hounslow-Heath shouted for Joy, at the News of their Deliverance, to the greater terror of the King and his Popish Counciltors.

Some time before this, it had been rumour'd that the Queen was with Child, though there were many apparent Reasons to believe the contrary; however, the Protestants both at home and abroad were much discouraged, and the Papists as much incouraged, in hope of a Popish Successor to finish the Work that his Father might not have time to do. And now while the Bishops were in the Tower, the Queen pretended to fail in Labour, and to be Delivered of a Son, though the generality of the Nation did not believe there was any thing in it, and by the whole carriage of the business it was plain, That there was not sufficient Testimony of the reality of this Birth. Sunday, June 17. was appointed for a Thanksgiving throughout England, the Conduits in London running with Wine, and afterwards there was curious Fire-works upon the Thames over against White-Hall, for Joy of this new Prince; yea, the Kings Ambassadors at Vienna, and in the Courts of several other Princes, made great demonstrations of Rejoicing, by Feasting, Fireworks, and other Curiosities, which it is said cost, the King near an 100000 l. Of such consequence did they apprehend this Birth to be, for advancing the Cath. Cause, & reducing these Kingdoms into Romish bondage.

In this sad and desolate Conjunction of Affairs, wherein the Protestant Religion, the ancient Honour and Glory of the English Nation, and the Liberties and Properties of all degrees therein, were going to wreck, the Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom, having no where else to place their hopes and confidence but in Her Royal Highness, as being Heir apparent to the Crown, and in the Celebrated Virtue and Renown of His Highness the Prince of Orange, for Military Conduct and Heroick Magnanimity: They represent-ed their Grievances so effectually to them, that at

length His Highness was induced by their strong and convincing Arguments to appear in the defence and rescue of three Nations, languishing under the heavy oppression of Arbitrary power and Imposture ; and so full was the Kingdom of just resentment and indignation, for the violences and outrages which the People in general had suffered, by the deprivation of their Priviledges and Properties, and by such a dis-honourable endeavour to imbase the Royal Line it self, that when it was known that His Highness was coming to their Succor, they expected him with all impatience imaginable, and when he was Landed made his Camp the General Rendevouz of the Nation.

And now on a sudden all the mirth is dashed at White-Hall, for Sept. 28. a melancholly Proclamation is published, That the King had received undoubted Intelligence that a great and sudden Invasion was designed from Holland upon this Kingdom, but that relying upon the Ancient Courage, Faith and Allegiance of his people, he resolved to Live and Dye for the Honour and Safety of the Nation against all Invaders. After this he published a Proclamation of pardon, and the Lord Bishop of Londons Suspension was taken off, and the injured Gentlemen both of Oxford and Cambridge restored ; yea, so great was the fright, That all the Charters throughout England were likewise restored, after so much pains to deprive the Nation of them : And the Advice of the Bishops was demanded but never followed. Yet in the midst of this consternation the Papists were resolved to Christen their Prince of Wales, and to oblige the people, the Pope, represented by his Nuncio, was Godfather, and the Queen Dowager Godmother ; and two days after a Proclamation was published, commanding all L. Lieutenants and D. Lieutenants, to cause all the Coasts to be strictly guarded, and to drive their Cattle 20 miles at least from the place where the Enemy should Land. And Oct. 22. the King assembled his

Privy Council, and sent for all the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Town, and Sir John Chapman then Lord Mayor, and the Aldermen of London, to whom he declared, ' That the malicious endeavours of his Adversaries had so poysoned the minds of some of his Subjects, that very many of them did not believe that the Son wherewith God had blessed him, was his, but a supposed Child ; however he could say, that by a particular providence, scarce ever any Prince was born where so many persons were present : That he had taken this time to have the matter heard and examined, expecting the P. of Orange with the first Easterly Wind would invade the Kingdom, and because his Life might be exposed, he thought it necessary to clear this point to prevent his Kingdoms being ingaged in blood after his Death. After which the Affidavits of several Popish Ladies were taken, and then those of the Lords, and the whole was at length published in print, to the great scandal of all modest persons.

In the mean time the P. of Orange having published his Declaration of the Reasons of this Expedition, and with an unimaginable secrefie and speed prepared all things ready for so great an undertaking, His Highness set Sail from Holland with a Fleet of 635 Men of War, Fireships and Tenders, for the carriage of Horse and Foot, Arms and Ammunition, and toward the latter end of October, His Highness Sailed from the Flats near the Brill, and stood to the Northward, but a terrible Storm arising, which continued for two Days and Nights together, (in which bad weather about 300 Horse were lost) the Fleet were forced to put into Harbor again, and the Prince sent an account to the States thereof ; but the damage was not so great as the King was made believe, and all hands being employed they were soon refitted, and put once again to Sea, and came in sight of the North Foreland : The Prince lead the Van in the Ship called the Brill, his Flag being English colours, and the Motto, *The Protestant Religion and Liberties of England*, and un-

derneath, *And I will Maintain it.* And now three small Frigates being sent to the mouth of the Thames, brought word that the English Fleet lay at the Buoy in the Nore, consisting of 34 Sail, besides two in the Downs, thereupon the Prince gave a signal for stretching the whole Fleet in a Line, from Dover to Calice, 25 deep, so that they reached within a League of each place. the Flanks and Rere being Guarded by the Men of War, which was a ravishing sight to have seen, the Drums and Trumpets beating and sounding for three hours together, and then Sailing forward with a fair Wind, Nov. 5. His Highness Landed at Torbay near Exeter, with divers great Commanders, as well English Noblemen as others, and 14352 Horse and Foot, being the day of our former deliverance from the horrid Gun-powder Treason, our Fleet not opposing him, the Seamen being unwilling to Fight upon that occasion. The Countrey people, though in other cases timorous and frightful, yet now came flocking to the shore, bringing such provisions as they could hastily get to comfort and refresh the Soldiers. The Army being Landed, marched toward Exeter, increasing as they went, and the City upon their approach opened the Gates, and many of the Townsmen Listed themselves, and His Highness published his Declaration in all places and on the Sunday it was read to the people in the Cathedral. The King was extreanly alarm'd, and ordered his Army, and a Train of Artillery, to march against the Prince (and Exeter Fair, and all other Fairs in the West, were prohibited) having appointed the General Rendevouz of his Forces to be at Salisbury, but some Horse being sent before to stop the progress of the Prince went over to him, and joined in the Common Cause of Religion and Liberty.

In the mean time the English Nobility and Gentry came in to the Prince in great numbers, and others raised considerable Forces in divers Counties, and seized upon Hull, and other places of strength. The King coming to Salisbury, found that his English Forces were under

under a general dissatisfaction, as being unwilling to engage in civil bloodshed with their own Countrymen, and that the peoples supplying them so sparingly discovered their kindness to his own person, but especially to his Irish Troops, whom he had sent for over some time before, being about 4000; and soon after Prince George and the L. Churchill, went both to the Prince, and the P. Ann retired her self another way, having sent Letters to the King of the absolute necessity of their withdrawing. This, with the falling off of great numbers of his Officers and Souldiers daily, and the Prince marching toward him, and increasing his Forces as he came forward, and upon a false alarm that Cr. Schomberg was advanced within 20 or 30 miles of him, with the Vanguard of the Princes Army, occasioned the King to leave Salisbury, and return back to Windsor, and so to London. But notwithstanding all these fatal Desertions, the King continued still constant to the counsels of the Queen and the Romish Priests; the result of which was to send to the Prince (who at that time was come as far as Hungerford) certain proposals of accommodation, but the Princes offers in answer to them proving of too hard digestion to the Romish counsellors at White-Hall, it came to nothing; so that the King finding he had to deal with those that were not to be trick'd with obsolete stratagems, and dilatory promises he began to think of taking other measures: To that purpose he sent away the Queen and her Infant, with a small Train, but a large proportion, as it was said, of Treasure and Jewels, with which soon after she landed in France, and then resolved himself to follow her, and sent a Letter to the E. of Feversham to dismiss the Army, though he said, ' He would have had one blow for it, if they had thought it safe for him to venture himself at the Head of his Troops, but that he did not now expect they should farther expose themselves in resisting a Foreign Army, and a Poysoned Nation. In persuance of this Letter, the E. of Feversham sent another to the

Y. of Orange, That by the Kings Order he should make no further opposition against any body, which he thought fit to let His Highness know, so soon as possible, to prevent the effusion of blood.

The Queen having thus left the Court, the Chancellor, F. Petre, and all the rest of the Rabble of Priests, Monks and Friars, whose violent Councils had brought the King into this distress, pack'd up their Trinkets to shift for themselves, the Popes Nuncio being thought to go with the Queen. The same Evening the King sent for the L. Mayor and Sheriffs, charging them strictly to take care of the peace of the City. After which the Council was a long time in debate, and a Meeting was appointed the next morning under pretence of advising upon the exigency of affairs, but more probably to colour his intended flight, for about 3 a clock next morning, Dec. 11. 1638 he took water at the Privy Stairs, and went down the River without the least discovery of his departure to any, attended only by 2 or 3 persons, and then put himself aboard a small Vessel for France, but being forced by foul weather upon the Coast of Kent, near Faversham, as soon as he came to that Town he was seized upon by the multitude, who stopt all that endeavoured to make their escape ; they rifled him of what Gold and Jewels he had about him, with other ill usage unbecoming his Grandeur and Royalty, but at last being known, the Rabble became more submissive, and would have return'd what they had taken from him, but the King generously pardoned their ignorance, receiving only his Jewels back, and leaving them the money.

In the mean time the London Rabble, as is usual upon such Revolutions, fell with the utmost fury upon the new erected Mag-Houses about the Town, pulling down, burning and destroying all before them, even to the Ransacking of the Houses of Foreign Ambassadors. For redress of these disorders, several of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal then in Town, upon notice of the Kings being withdrawn, repaired to Guild-Hall, and tending for Coll. Skelton, then Lieutenant of the Tower, demanded the Keys, which being by him readily resigned, they committed that charge to the L. Lucas, a person of known Honour and Integrity to his Country. After which they drew up a Declaration to this effect :

That

That they did reasonably hope, the King having issued out his Proclamation and Writs for calling a Free Parliament, they might have rested securely under the expectation of that meeting, but in regard His Majestie had withdrawn himself, and as they apprehended in order to his departure out of the Kingdom, they could not without being wanting to their Duty, be silent under those calamities wherein the Popish Councils, which had so long prevailed, had miserably involved these Realms: They do therefore unanimously resolve to apply themselves to His Highness the Prince of Orange, who with so great kindness to this Kingdom, so vast experience, and so much hazard, had undertaken, by endeavouring to procure a Free Parliament, to rescue us (with as little effusion of Christian blood as possible) from the imminent dangers of Popery and Slavery; declaring further, that they will with their utmost endeavours assist His Highness in the obtaining such a Parliament with all speed, wherein our Laws, our Liberties and Properties, may be secured, the Church of England in particular, with a due Liberty to Protestant Dissenters, and in general the Protestant Religion and Interest over the whole World, may be supported and encouraged, to the Glory of God, the Happiness of the established Government in these Kingdoms, and the advantage of all Princes and States in Christendom, that may be therein concerned: And in the mean time they would take care to Disarm all Papists, and secure all Priests and Jesuits: And if there were any thing more to be performed by them, for promoting His Highness Generous Intentions for the publick Good, they should be ready to do it as occasion should require.

This Declaration was Signed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Earls of Pembroke, Dorset, Mulgrave, Thanet, Carlisle, Craven, Aestury, Burlington, Sussex, Berkley, Rochester, Newport and Weymouth, and by the Bishops of Winchester, St. Asaph, Ely, Rochester and Peterborough: Also the Lords Wharton, North and Grey, Chandois, Montague, Jermin Carbery, Culpeper, Crew, and Osulston, and three of the number were ordered to attend His Highness with this Declaration. The next day the Lord Chancellor Jeffreys was taken at Wapping in a Seamans habit, and brought with a numerous Rabble to the Lord Mayor, and after sent to the Tower by order of the Peers.

Dec. 14. His Highness the P. of Orange arrived at Windsor; at which time the Lords that were at White Hall having notice that the King was at *Feverham*, sent earnestly to desire him to return to London, which he did with some reluctance, attended with several of the Nobility, and a Guard of Horse: upon notice whereof, His Highness resolved to hasten to London, and the King sent a complement to invite him to accept of St. James's for the place of his Residence, but His Highness thought it convenient, for the greater safety of his person, that the King should remove to *Hans*, and to prevent disturbances among the Soldiers, His Highness resolved that his own Guards should be possesst of all the Posts and Avenues.

at White-Hall, so that His Highness desire to the King to remove did not come till late at Night, but the King chusing to go back to Rochester, Guards and Barges were appointed for that purpose: he reached Gravesend the same Night, and from thence in his Coach hastned for Rochester. In the Afternoon His Highness arrived at St. James's, where he received the Congratulations of the Nobility and chiefest persons of Quality in Town, and an Address from the L. Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of London. Soon after the King took an occasion to withdraw himself from Rochester, Dec. 22. about 12 a Clock at Night, with a small Train, and taking an obscure Road, with great secrecie and caution hastned to the Sea side, where he imbuqued, and afterward Landed in France.

To make up this breach in the Government, the Lords and Commons immediately meet in the H. of Lords, and humbly requested his Highness to take upon him the administration of publick Affairs, both Civil and Military, for the preservation of the Protestant Religion, Rights, Laws, Liberties and Properties, and for the peace of the Nation. Thereupon His Highness sends for all such persons as had been Members of Parliament in the Reign of Charles II. with the L. Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of London, to meet and advise upon the best manner how to pursue the ends of his Declaration by calling a Free Parliament.

These Gentlemen repairing to the H. of Commons, renew their Address to His Highness to continue the taking upon him the Administration of Affairs and to issue out Summons to the Lords being Protestants, as also his Circulatory Letters to the Counties, Cities and Burroughs, to Elect such a number of persons to represent them as are of right to be sent to Parliament; who meeting accordingly, Jan. 22. after some debate both Houses came to this Resolution, That the late K. James II. having endeavoured to subvert the constitution of the Kingdom, by breaking the original contract between the King and people, and by advice of Jesuits, and other wicked persons, having violated the fundamental Laws, and having withdrawn himself out of the Kingdom, had Abdicated the Government, and that the Throne was thereby become vacant. After which an Instrument in writing was agreed to by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, declaring the Prince and Princess of Orange King and Queen of England, France and Ireland, which being presented to their Highnesses in the Banqueting-houle, and their consent thereto received, they were both, Feb. 13. 1688. proclaimed with the usual Solemity, but with the greatest Joy that a people delivered from so many great dangers and difficulties were capable of, being blest in a Prince who is the wonder of the Age for Magnanimity and Courage, and a Princess that is the Miracle of her Sex, in whom all Virtues as in their proper center meet, and upon whom, next under God, depend the hopes of all that desire the welfare and prosperity of these Kingdoms, and of all Christendom in general.

*A Catalogue of Books Printed for Nath.
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